Man gets suspended 1-year sentence for beer theft. PAGE 2
US wins case to seize Russian superyacht in Fiji, sails away. PAGE 7

Hafa Adai!

$1

Saipan Tribune

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FAA execs: No final ruling that OPA fee is 'revenue diversion'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sablan

» Sablan proposes amendments to a bill that exempt autonomous agencies from paying OPA fee

Two Federal Aviation Administration officials have acknowledged that FAA has no definitive opinion that says that the Commonwealth Ports Authority cannot pay the 1% Office of the Public Auditor fee that all autonomous agencies and corporations have to pay and that there must be a breakdown of all the services that OPA provides, including potential investigations.

See FAA on Page 4

Fire near IPI site under investigation

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The fire that engulfed a pile of debris near the Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC construction site in Garapan remains under investigation as per the Department of Fire and

See FIRE on Page 4

VALIANT SHIELD 22
MN3 Anthony Roman and MN3 Deondra Fontenot, assigned to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit 5, launch an MK18 Mod 1 unmanned underwater vehicle in the vicinity of Tinian Harbor from a commercial maritime support vessel in support of Valiant Shield 22. Exercises such as Valiant Shield allows the Indo-Pacific Command Joint Forces the opportunity to integrate forces from all branches of service to conduct precise, lethal, and overwhelming multi-axis, multi-domain effects that demonstrate the strength and versatility of the Joint Force and our commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific.
U.S. NAVY/LT. TYLER BALDINO

Maj. Juan King of the Guam Army National Guard, right, administers the oath for Private First Class Reyel Quezon at the Circle of Honor of the American Memorial Park yesterday afternoon.
LEIGH GASES

Quezon is 1st Army National Guard enlistee from the CNMI since 2014

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

After eight long years, the CNMI finally saw another enlistee in the Guam Army National Guard, which makes Reyel Mar "Carlo" Quezon the 40th CNMI soldier to enlist since 2014 and is currently the seventh active member.

Quezon, a resident of

See QUEZON on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE

NATION
The school district police chief did not appear at a City Council meeting in Uvalde on Tuesday.
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WORLD
Russia drew closer to its goal of fully capturing Ukraine's eastern industrial heartland.
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LIFE & STYLE
For almost three decades, Jeff Goldblum has played Dr. Ian Malcolm with particular panache.
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GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

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Local

Man gets suspended 1-year sentence for beer theft

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has sentenced a man to a year in prison after he was found guilty of theft for taking a case of beer from Twins Market without paying for it.

Superior court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho sentenced Vicente Sablan Basa, 69, to a one-year imprisonment term, all suspended, for one count of theft.

According to the court's order, the court can impose in whole or in part the suspended sentence if Basa violates any law or Office of Adult Probation directives.

Basa was placed on probation for three years effective immediately and was ordered to report to the Office of Adult Probation.

Defendant shall pay no fine as the court has already found him indigent and living on Social Security and food stamps, but he shall still pay pay $25 court cost and $120 probation fee per year of his probation.

In lieu of community service, as Basa has a long history of co-occurring mental illness/disabilities and addictions, Camacho ordered him to be assessed by the Community Guidance Center for any mental and/or addiction counseling.

Basa was also ordered to stay away from Twins Market in Dandan during his probation and to pay restitution in the amount of $23.99.

According to court documents, after drinking beer with some friends, the group ran out of beer and the defendant went on a "beer run" and entered Twins Market. Basa walked out of the store without paying for a case of beer and left the store in a vehicle and was later stopped by police and arrested.

The bench trial commenced on Aug. 4, 2021, and continued for several dates and ended on Jan. 5, 2022.

PSS Summer Food Service Program to launch this summer

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The CNMI Public School System Child Nutrition Program announced this week that its Summer Food Service village lunch program will start next Monday, June 13, and will run weekly from Monday to Friday, 11am to 12pm, until July 29.

The program will provide one free lunch per child.

Child Nutrition Program director Dale Roberts said this program is not necessarily just for students but for all children. He said 2-year-old children who are not attending school and are neither toddlers can still come with an older sibling or adult and pick up lunch. Even recent high school graduates who are still 17 or 18 years old are also eligible, he said.

"With food inflation, fuel inflation, and shipping issues, the help is especially important," he added.

One Saipan, the meals may be picked up at Dandan Middle School, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, Garapan Elementary School, Kagman Elementary School, Koblerville Elementary School, Oleai Elementary School, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, or William S. Reyes Elementary School.

On Tinian, children may pick it up at Tinian Elementary School, and for Rota, pickup is at Sinapalo Elementary School or at Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. and Sr. High School.

This year, instead of the "Grab and Go" style of the past two years when food was given to parents in their vehicles, the meals will be distributed in person to children at any of the designated locations.

Roberts said the SFSP is a PSS community-focused, child nutrition program and is also distributing meals at licensed daycare centers, public and private summer schools, and public and private summer camps.

Roberts said they will be starting with 100 lunches per site and will adjust daily and the number of meals prepared each day will be based on participation the day before.

"If we need to prepare more meals to meet demand, we will. If participation is low, we will reduce the meals delivered," he said. "Participation evolves as the summer progresses and we never know how it's going to play out. If a site has fewer than 40 kids on multiple days in a week, we will consider closing that particular site. …I expect we will serve between 200,000 and 300,000 meals this summer across all programs."

The PSS Child Nutrition program operates under a Nutrition Assistance Grant funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Throughout the year, CNP provides CNMI children access to nutritious meals at schools, Head Start centers, daycare centers, and summer camps. All meals served fall into one of the following categories: the School Meals Program, the Summer Food Service Program, or the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

DeLeon Guerrero seeks updates on awarded ARPA allocation for NGOs

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Out of the $10 million American Rescue Plan Act funds allocated to non-governmental organizations/non-profit organizations, a total of $6.9 million remains to be awarded, according to Sen. Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan).

She said a total of $10 million has been allocated for NGOs/NFOs but not all approved awards were disbursed at the time her office received a response on her Open Government Act request from the Department of Finance.

She said a total of $6,921,066 remains uncommitted as of the date of the Finance secretary's responses to her OGA request.

"We need to know if the total $10 million has been awarded to NGOs/NPOs and for purposes of ARPA transparency and accountability and an updated report is beneficial to the community," the senator said. DeLeon Guerrero chairs the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee.

DeLeon Guerrero requested Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig last Tuesday, through an email pursuant to OGA, for a most recent award list of ARPA funds to NGOs/NPOs.

She said that, based on Atalig's last responses, only 4% or $400,000 of the awards were disbursed.

The senator said for fiscal year 2021 only $750,000 was awarded out of the $4 million, and for FY 2022 based on the last communication, only $2,328,994 was awarded out of the $6 million allocated.

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CHCC lauds all involved in patient transfers to off-island

Over the past week, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp, successfully transferred two patients off-island for tertiary care, using air ambulance transport, with support from the CNMI Office of the Governor, the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

While CHCC provides primary care for all residents of the CNMI, patients requiring the type of care considered highly specialized that usually involves advanced and complex procedures may need transfers to a hospital outside the CNMI.

Air ambulance transport is the fastest method of transporting critically ill patients from one facility to another, and it includes being accompanied by qualified medical staff. Certain conditions require the use of air ambulance transport because it is the most appropriate and effective mode of transport for that patient under specific circumstances and when the closest proximity to an available hospital facility is located beyond Guam.

The coordination of emergency air ambulance transport may take upward to 72 hours before a patient is flown because coordination includes:

■ The attending physician discussing the care of the patient from stabilization of the patient to the arrival of the patient at the transfer facility to ensure seamless transition in care.

■ Ensuring the accepting facility has an available bed to accept and care for the patient upon arrival and after surgery.

■ Ensuring availability of emergency air ambulance from the closest proximity.

■ Working with the patient's insurance plan to ensure coverage for the medical care at the transfer facility.

■ Ensuring there is no barrier for immigration entry for the patient and their escort.

■ Producing all medical records, vaccination records, and COVID-19 test results, especially when COVID-19 vaccination is required.

■ Managing all details of ground travel to and from the airport.

CHCC remains committed to delivering the best outcome for each and every one of its patients, whether off- or on-island as quickly as possible. It is currently collaborating

See CHCC on Next Page

Surui Huang is named to Lehigh U's dean's list

BETHLEHEM, PA—Dean's list status, which is awarded to students who earned a scholastic average of 3.6 or better while carrying at least 12 hours of regularly graded courses, has been granted to Surui Huang of Saipan, in the spring 2022 semester.

Lehigh University (lehigh.edu) is among the nation's most selective, highly ranked private research universities. ***(PR)***

Man who claims wrongful arrest asks court to issue judgment

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man who is suing a police sergeant and a police officer of the Department of Public Safety for unlawful arrest has asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue a judgment in his favor.

Kagman resident Nicholas Yarolfalchuw, through his lawyer, Joseph Horey, is requesting the court to grant summary judgment in his favor.

District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona will hear the matter on June 10 at 1:30pm.

According to Horey, the undisputed facts of the matter show that defendants, under color of CNMI law, arrested his client at his home for a misdemeanor, with neither a warrant nor exigent circumstances preventing them from getting one.

"Since the arrest of a person at home, under color of law but without a warrant and without exigent circumstances, is an unconstitutional unreasonable seizure and an actionable violation of civil rights, plaintiff is entitled to judgment in his favor and against defendants as a matter of law," Horey said.

Police Sgt. John Cabrera and police officer Daniel Fitial were named as defendants in the lawsuit.

For their part, the defendants said there was probable cause to arrest Yarolfalchuw.

Yarolfalchuw alleged in his lawsuit deprivation of civil rights and has asked the District Court for the NMI to issue an order awarding him an unspecified amount of damages.

According to the lawsuit, Yarolfalchuw was in a pavilion in May 2021 within the premises of where he lived and was talking with relatives when Cabrera arrived, entered the premises, and parked his vehicle beside the pavilion.

After a short discussion, the plaintiff advised Cabrera that he was trespassing and instructed him to depart. Instead, Cabrera allegedly used his police car to block the driveway. Fitial then arrived at the premises in another vehicle. Under the direction of Cabrera, Fitial ordered the plaintiff to place his hands behind his back. Fitial then placed the plaintiff in handcuffs and ordered him to get into Fitial's vehicle.

Fitial drove the plaintiff to DPS headquarters where the plaintiff was held in custody for the rest of the day and the following night, until he was released at about 4pm the following day.

FAA

From Page 1

As this developed, Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) proposed yesterday during a House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee meeting some amendments to House Bill 22-102, which would exempt public corporations and autonomous agencies from paying the 1% OPA fee. Instead of exempting the entire CPA from paying the OPA fee, Sablan proposed a temporary exemption for CPA's airport revenue only, since CPA doesn't dispute being charged the fee for non-airport revenue.

Sablan informed members of the Ways and Means Committee that that during their meeting Tuesday with two FAA officials—Victor Globa, program manager for compliance for the Western-Pacific Region; and Carlos Salas, deputy manager for Honolulu Airports District Office—the main question was whether the 1% OPA fee that all autonomous agencies are required to pay from their operations budget constitutes unlawful revenue diversion for CPA.

Sablan said Globa and Salas stated that it may be considered revenue diversion, but it depends.

"So they…couldn't give us…a final determination right then and there, that it is, in fact, revenue diversion," she said.

The lawmaker said the two FAA officials did express concern that CPA may be in jeopardy of being placed in non-compliance, and may be at risk of losing federal funds.

"But they also said that it all depends on whether there is an approved cost allocation plan. It depends on how these OPA fees are actually used," she noted.

Sablan said the FAA officials' main concern was to ensure that airport revenues are used for airport operations, maintenance and infrastructure projects, as required by the federal grant assurances, and by federal law.

The committee approved the substitute bill. It was amended on the floor to create a sunset clause and extend it from three years to five years. Committee chairman Rep. Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota) offered the amendment in what he described as "a spirit of compromise."

During Tuesday's meeting with FAA, CPA, OPA, and Department of Finance that was presided over by Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) in the House chamber, Sablan asked FAA if there is a definitive opinion that CPA cannot pay this 1% OPA fee and that there must be a breakdown of OPA's services provided.

Globa said he can't give a definite response and that if Sablan wants, she should request that in writing, which specifically states all the scenarios that she has, and that they are more than happy to run it to their headquarters and have them provide a response on that.

"But again, based on the 1% straight across-the-board and saying we're [going to] give [OPA] 1% of the revenues here, we believe that would be revenue diversion," Globa said.

He said unless there's something different that Sablan can tell them why that wouldn't be considered revenue diversion, then he is more than happy to give her the individual who she needs to contact in order to be able to get a clear definition out of that.

At Tuesday's meeting, Globa also stated that while they understand the requirements and the necessity of having audits, from a public perspective there's a challenge in how it's going to be done.

Globa said the airport currently has single audits that are done every year, they hire consultants to do that, and they go through a request-for-proposal process to do so.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

FIRE

From Page 1

Emergency Medical Services.

In an official statement from DFEMS spokesperson Rob Mojica, DFEMS investigator Kyoshi Kileleman was assigned to investigate the fire, which took place near the IPI construction site last Monday.

According to Kileleman, the Division of Fire Prevention and Arson Investigation is requesting the public's assistance if they have any information about the blaze. If so, they can call (670) 664-9178.

Last Monday, June 6, at approximately 10:50am, Department of Public Safety officers requested for DFEMS' assistance in what they believed was a structure fire at IPI, Garapan.

At 10:52 am, Engine - 2 responded to the location. Fire Crew supervisor A. Farley was the first to arrive on the scene at around 10:53am where he found that a storage area near the IPI construction site and some debris were on fire. At 11:12 am, Farley reported that the debris fire was under control.

Soon after, Kileleman arrived on scene. He stated that when he arrived, his initial observations revealed that a pile of rubberish and lumber debris had been fully engulfed in flames. His investigation revealed that the fire's origin was on the western side of the building.

Investigation and interviews confirmed that the fire was isolated to one area and there were no injuries or fatalities at the scene.

Kileleman stated that the fire is pending further investigation, so that the cause of the fire may be determined.

CHCC

From Page 3

with the CNMI Legislature on establishing the Health Network Program, a revision of the Medical Referral Services Office—a network of off-island providers available to see the residents of the CNMI—that will operate under CHCC.

The goals of the Health Network Program include streamlining assistance for eligible patients with demonstrated needs to access tertiary care and allowing CHCC to integrate patient care and respond quickly to changes in the capacity of on-island health care providers to treat the residents of the CNMI. ***(CHCC)***

QUEZON

From Page 1

Saipan and a graphic designer of 670 Rocksteady Shop, signed up with the National Guard during an enlistment ceremony yesterday at the American Memorial Park. Quezon will be shipping out for boot camp this August.

Basking in the afternoon sunlight, the AMP's flag circle provided the appropriate backdrop to Guam Army National Guard Maj. Juan King administering Quezon's oath into the National Guard, with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in attendance.

Quezon was joined at the ceremony by his fiancee, Renalyn Tacliad; his mother, Marieta Cepeda; his father, Antonio Cepeda, and his brother, Randy Ferrer.

Prior to enlisting in the National Guard, Quezon said he was in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps in high school and Reserve Officer Training Corps in college. "I was familiar with the military stuff already. So now that I found out there's a Guam unit for the National Guard, I did my research, and the recruiters are very helpful. That's pretty much the door that opened up for me," he said after his oathtaking.

In a message to future enlistees, Quezon said, "It's never too late. Just do it. There's no good time, there's no perfect time. It's just the time you decide to open the door and join. That's pretty much it."

After administering Quezon's oath, King said the event was made more significant by the presence of the governor, Quezon's family, and "doing it here at this park."

After the ceremony, Torres said that finally having an enlistee from the CNMI "is actually a good opportunity for us to look at the partnership" with the Guam Army National Guard. "The fact that we have one enlisted in the Guam National Guard shows that there's an interest. …I want to congratulate [Quezon] and his family, the proud parents that are here. His father said he's been wanting to do it…and [I] encourage anybody, whether you're here in the CNMI or Guam…to enlist and be part of the services that give back to our community when it calls," he added.

Torres mentioned that getting a CNMI National Guard created is actually in the works and the CNMI has the support of both the government of Guam and Maj. Esther Aguigui, who is The Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard, "but there's quite a few issues. One is funding and the support to make sure that we have the right population and enough interest to enlist, so we look at the numbers of reservists. …Those are our data that's important for us to provide in order for us to move forward and get our own National Guard. There's no timeline yet, but we are getting a lot of support."

From left, Staff Sgt. Johnovin Diego, Maj. Juan King, PFC Reyel Quezon, Master Sgt. Jonathan Guzman, and SFC Aldrin Borja pose for a photo with the $20,000 enlistment bonus check after Quezon's oathtaking at the American Memorial Park.

LEIGH GASES

PFC Reyel Quezon, center, poses for a photo with Gov. Ralph Torres, second from left, Quezon's fiancée, Renalyn Tacliad; Quezon's mother, Marieta Cepeda; and father, Antonio Cepeda, along with Staff Sgt. Johnovin Diego and Maj. Juan King at the American Memorial Park.

LEIGH GASES

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Support group to feature dementia care specialists, writer

Caregivers of persons with dementia in Guam and the rest of Micronesia will have an opportunity this month to hear from world-renowned dementia care specialists affiliated with Positive Approach to Care.

Teepa Snow, a registered and licensed occupational therapist and a fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association, will present on "The Typical Progression of Dementia and How to Help" this Saturday, and applied gerontologist Dr. Beth Nolan will present on "Understanding the Different Dementias" on Saturday, June 25. The sessions will be online via Zoom, and Snow and Nolan will be available after their presentations to answer questions from the group participants.

Nolan

Leon-Guerrero

Snow

Also this month, two online dementia support group sessions will feature special presentations on "Reminiscence Therapy in Dementia Care" with local writer Jillette Torre Leon-Guerrero. Leon-Guerrero will share stories about her father's life growing up in Guam in the 1930s and '40s, along with live readings from her book Coming of Age in War-Torn Guam: The WWII Memoirs of Justo Torre Leon Guerrero. These sessions are specially designed to help caregivers learn to make meaningful connections with older adults and persons with dementia by embracing the oral storytelling traditions of Pacific island cultures, including sharing life stories and family memories.

The presentations are part of the ongoing online support groups for family caregivers of persons with dementia being conducted by the Guam/Micronesia Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program of the University of Guam School of Health.

The complete schedule of support group sessions in June is as follows:

CARES End-of-Life Dementia Care – Module 2: The CARES Approach
- 6pm – 8pm, Wednesday, June 8
- Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/92072878067

"The Typical Progression of Dementia and How to Help" with Teepa Snow
- 8am – 10am, Saturday, June 11
- Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/91243370958

"Reminiscence Therapy in Dementia Care" with Jillette Torre Leon-Guerrero
- 6pm – 8pm, Wednesday, June 15
- Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/92072878067
- 10am – noon, Saturday, June 18
- Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/91243370958

CARES End-of-Life Dementia Care – Module 3: Decision Making at the End of Life
- 6pm – 8pm, Wednesday, June 22
- Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/92072878067

"Understanding the Different Dementias" with Dr. Beth Nolan
- 8am – 10am, Saturday, June 25
- Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/91243370958

CARES End-of-Life Dementia Care – Module 4: Comfort Care
- 6pm – 8pm, Wednesday, June 29
- Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/92072878067

CARES End-of-Life Dementia Care – Module 5: Emotional and Spiritual Support
- 10am – noon, Saturday, July 2
- Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/91243370958

Ongoing dementia support groups The GWEP dementia support group sessions are held remotely on Zoom every Wednesday evening and Saturday morning, year-round. The sessions are free of charge to partners, family members, and other caregivers of persons with dementia who have ties to Guam and the Micronesian region.

For more information, contact Iain Twaddle or Nikolas Gutierrez at (671) 735-2883 or gwep.tgss@triton.uog.edu or Rhoda Orallo at (671) 735-3277 or r.orallo@hspguam.com. ***(PR)***

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Region 9, Water Division
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

Public Notice #: MP-22-01
Public Notice Date: June 8, 2022
Comment Period Closes: July 8, 2022

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX (USEPA) is issuing a notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act (CWA) to reissue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for two facilities owned and operated by the Commonwealth Utility Corporation:

AGINGAN Wastewater Treatment Plant
(NPDES permit No. MP0020028)
Lililok Lane, Agingan Point
Saipan, MP 96950

SADOG TASI Wastewater Treatment Plant
(NPDES permit No. MP0020010)
Sadog Tasi Rd.
Saipan, MP 96950

EPA is soliciting comments on the reissuance of NPDES permits for two wastewater treatment plants on Saipan Island within the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. The Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Collection System discharges a monthly average 1.8 million gallons per day of treated wastewater to Tinian Channel. The Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Collection System discharges a monthly average 2.6 million gallons per day of treated wastewater to Saipan Lagoon. Each facility disposes of biosolids at a local landfill. Both facilities are classified as major dischargers.

These proposed permits are very similar to the previous permits (issued in 2017) but include several changes: lower discharge daily effluent limits for enterococcus (bacteria), an emergency response plan and an inspection of each discharge outfall to ensure full operational capacity.

The proposed permits and fact sheets can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/npdes-permits-epas-pacific-southwest-region-9

To submit comments on the draft permit or draft factsheet for each NPDES permit, to request a public hearing, or to obtain more information or the administrative record, see EPA contact information below. If you need assistance in a language other than English or if you are a person with disabilities who needs a reasonable accommodation at no cost to you, please reach out by email or phone. EPA encourages electronic submittals, but if you are unable to submit electronically or need other assistance, please reach out to the contact information below.

Contact Information:
Peter Kozelka, kozelka.peter@epa.gov
EPA Region 9, NPDES Permit Section
75 Hawthorne St. Mail Code: WTR 2-3
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: (415) 972-3448

All data submitted by the applicant is available as part of the administrative record.
A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing.

Do not submit any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055•SAIPAN•MP•96950
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E-MAIL ADDRESS: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM | WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CASH DEPOSITORY SERVICES

CPA-RFP-006-22

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (RFP), and other contract provisions, for proposals from service providers to provide cash depository services for the CPA.

Proposals must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands no later than **4:30 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2022**. Proposals received after this date and time will not be considered and will be returned unopened. One original and three copies of each proposal shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked as 'Confidential' and each envelope must include the RFP number on the outside. It is the sole responsibility of a proposer to submit its proposal or proposals in a timely manner.

A Proposal Package consisting of the Scope of Work and further details is available for pick up at the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport beginning May 09, 2022. There is no charge for the proposal package.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50, Procurement Rules and Regulations of Title 40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC). Title 40, including Chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to chris.tenorio@cnmiports.com with copy to atudela@cnmiports.com . Deadline for questions and inquiries is 2:00 p.m. June 01, 2022.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

May 9, 2022
Date

NMTI

NORTHERN MARIANAS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
P.O. Box 504880 Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No.: (670) 235-6684

Northern Marianas Technical Institute
Board of Trustees Special Meeting
Monday, June 13, 2022
1:30 p.m., NMTech Lower Base Campus

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Adoption of Agenda
III. Adoption of Meeting Minutes
  a. June 3, 2022
IV. Public Comments
V. Unfinished Business
  a. CEO Evaluation
  b. Review of Emergency Procurement Regulations
  c. Committees:
    - Executive
    - Finance/Personnel
    - Programs
    - Foundation
    - Policy
VI. Announcements
VII. Adjournment

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US wins case to seize Russian superyacht in Fiji, sails away

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The United States won a legal battle on Tuesday to seize a Russian-owned superyacht in Fiji and wasted no time in taking command of the $325 million vessel and sailing it away from the South Pacific nation.

The court ruling represented a significant victory for the U.S. as it encounters obstacles in its attempts to seize the assets of Russian oligarchs around the world. While those efforts are welcomed by many who oppose the war in Ukraine, some actions have tested the limits of American jurisdiction abroad.

In Fiji, the nation's Supreme Court lifted a stay order that had prevented the U.S. from seizing the superyacht *Amadea*.

Chief Justice Kamal Kumar ruled that based on the evidence, the chances of defense lawyers mounting an appeal that the top court would hear were "nil to very slim."

Kumar said he accepted arguments that keeping the superyacht berthed in Fiji at Lautoka harbor was "costing the Fijian government dearly."

"The fact that U.S. authorities have undertaken to pay costs incurred by the Fijian government is totally irrelevant," the judge found. He said the *Amadea* "sailed into Fiji waters without any permit and most probably to evade prosecution by the United States of America."

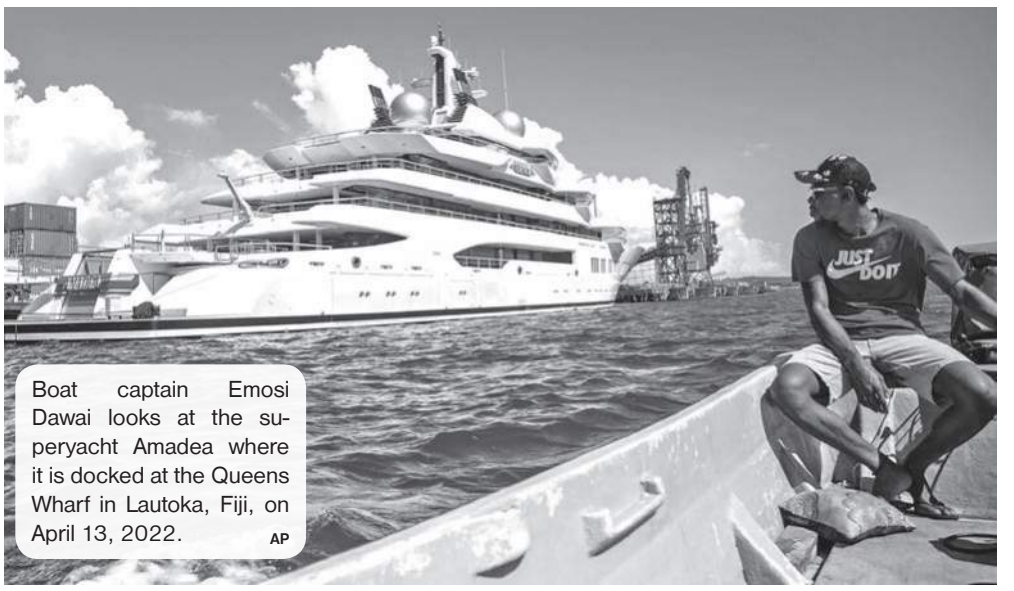
The U.S. removed the motorized vessel within an hour or two of the court's ruling, possibly to ensure the yacht didn't get entangled in any further legal action.

Anthony Coley, a spokesman for the U.S. Justice Department, said on Twitter that the superyacht had set sail for the U.S. under a new flag, and that American authorities were grateful to police and prosecutors in Fiji "whose perseverance and dedication to the rule of law made this action possible."

In early May, the Justice Department issued a statement saying the *Amadea* had been seized in Fiji, but that turned out to be premature after lawyers appealed.

It wasn't immediately clear where the U.S. intended to take the *Amadea*, which the FBI has linked to the Russian oligarch Suleiman Kerimov.

Fiji Director of Public Prosecutions Christopher Pryde said unresolved questions of money laundering and the ownership of the *Amadea* need to be decided in the U.S.



Boat captain Emosi Dawai looks at the superyacht Amadea where it is docked at the Queens Wharf in Lautoka, Fiji, on April 13, 2022. AP

"The decision acknowledges Fiji's commitment to respecting international mutual assistance requests and Fiji's international obligations," Pryde said.

In court documents, the FBI linked the *Amadea* to the Kerimov family through their alleged use of code names while aboard and the purchase of items such as a pizza oven and a spa bed. The ship became a target of Task Force Kleptо-Capture, launched in March to seize the assets of Russian oligarchs to put pressure on Russia to end the war.

The 106-meter (348-foot) -long vessel, about the length of a football field, features a live lobster tank, a hand-painted piano, a swimming pool and a large helipad.

Lawyer Feizal Haniff, who represented paper owner Millemarin Investments, had argued the owner was another wealthy Russian who, unlike Kerimov, doesn't face sanctions.

The U.S. acknowledged that paperwork appeared to show Eduard Khudainatov was the owner but said he was also the paper owner of a second and even larger superyacht, the *Scheherazade*, which has been linked to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The U.S. questioned whether Khudainatov could really afford two superyachts worth a total of more than $1 billion.

"The fact that Khudainatov is being held out as the owner of two of the largest superyachts on record, both linked to sanctioned individuals, suggests that Khudainatov is being used as a clean, unsanctioned straw owner to conceal the true beneficial owners," the FBI wrote in a court affidavit.

Court documents say the *Amadea* switched off its transponder soon after Russia invaded Ukraine and sailed from the Caribbean through the Panama Canal to Mexico, arriving with over $100,000 in cash. It then sailed thousands of miles (kilometers) across the Pacific Ocean to Fiji.

The Justice Department said it didn't believe paperwork showing the *Amadea* was next headed to the Philippines, arguing it was really destined for Vladivostok or elsewhere in Russia.

The department said it found a text message on a crew member's phone saying, "We're not going to Russia" followed by a "shush" emoji.

The U.S. said Kerimov secretly bought the Cayman Island-flagged Amadea last year through various shell companies. The FBI said a search warrant in Fiji turned up emails showing that Kerimov's children were aboard the ship this year and that the crew used code names—G0 for Kerimov, G1 for his wife, G2 for his daughter and so on.

Kerimov made a fortune investing in Russian gold producer Polyus, with *Forbes* magazine putting his net worth at $14.5 billion. The U.S. first sanctioned him in 2018 after he was detained in France and accused of money laundering there, sometimes arriving with suitcases stuffed with 20 million euros.

Khudainatov is the former chairman and chief executive of Rosneft, the state-controlled Russian oil and gas company.

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES
CUC-RAESP-22-021

Tinian Concrete Power Poles Project, Phase 1

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for Architectural and Engineering Services for the Tinian Concrete Power Poles Project, Phase 1, for Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RAESP package set.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies of the Proposal & One (1) original and five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal must be submitted in a separate sealed envelopes marked "CUC-RAESP-22-021, Tinian Concrete Power Poles Project, Phase 1" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **June 29, 2022 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the RAESP requirements in the course of proposer's preparation of the RAESP under the contract. The RASEP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the RAESP under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAESP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 16, 2022** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Adrian Reyes, CUC Engineer for Power Division via email address adrian.reyes@cucgov.org and Christie L. Sablan, CUC's Senior Purchasing Technician via email at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfections in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES
CUC-RAESP-22-022

Rota Concrete Power Poles Project, Phase 1

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for Architectural and Engineering Services for the Rota Concrete Power Poles Project, Phase 1 for Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RAESP package set.

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GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A real hope for changing the extremists

The recent mass shootings have terrified the nation. It's not just the ferocity of the attacks. It's the randomness of the victims, whether elementary school children or elderly women shopping at the neighborhood supermarket. People doing normal things, the things all of us do, find themselves attacked by a heavily armed man with a powerful, rapidly firing gun.

The shootings have reminded us that we could all be their targets. This is especially true when even the most disturbed and the most extreme among us have easy access to weapons.

The danger doesn't just come from loners like the killers in Buffalo and Uvalde. Some of the most disturbing threats in our society come from disaffected and violent young men whose alienation makes them prime recruits by extremist political or religious movements. Social media encourages those who see no other answer to their grievances except violence, aimed at various groups in particular and society in general.

Even before the antisemitic attack on the Tree of Life, this region was fertile soil for anti-immigrant and racist sentiment. The FBI has identified Pittsburgh as a "hub" for extremist groups. The extremist movement is as strong here as any place in the country.

A Berlin-based nonprofit that has had much success in de-radicalizing disaffected young men on the far right as well as committed Islamic extremists, recently announced that its flagship American operation will be located here in Pittsburgh. The Violence Prevention Network believes it can deprogram those attracted to groups like the Sovereign Citizens and Patriot Front.

According to Michele Leaman, a director at VPN, the key to the group's success has been its telephone and digital hotline operation that helps friends and family members of potential extremists. The network advises them to deepen their connections with the at-risk person, not cut them off. If the at-risk person escalates their behavior, the group works with law enforcement to monitor their activity. It also trains law enforcement in what to look for and how to deal with extremists.

VPN also works in the prison system. Having worked with over 800 far-rightists and more than 1,000 Islamists in German prisons, it claims a recidivism rate of only 13%, compared with 41.5% for other German programs. VPN wants to prove it can operate successfully in the Pennsylvania prison system.

So far, VPN has secured $100,000 in funding to operate in Pittsburgh, but that is far short of what is required. The network will set up hotlines to start and plans to hire at least 15 staff specialists to work with those being radicalized.

If what VPN proposes to do in the Pittsburgh area works here, it can probably work anywhere in America. It's one of the most practical and most hopeful signs that America may be able to change the young men who have made so many Americans so afraid.

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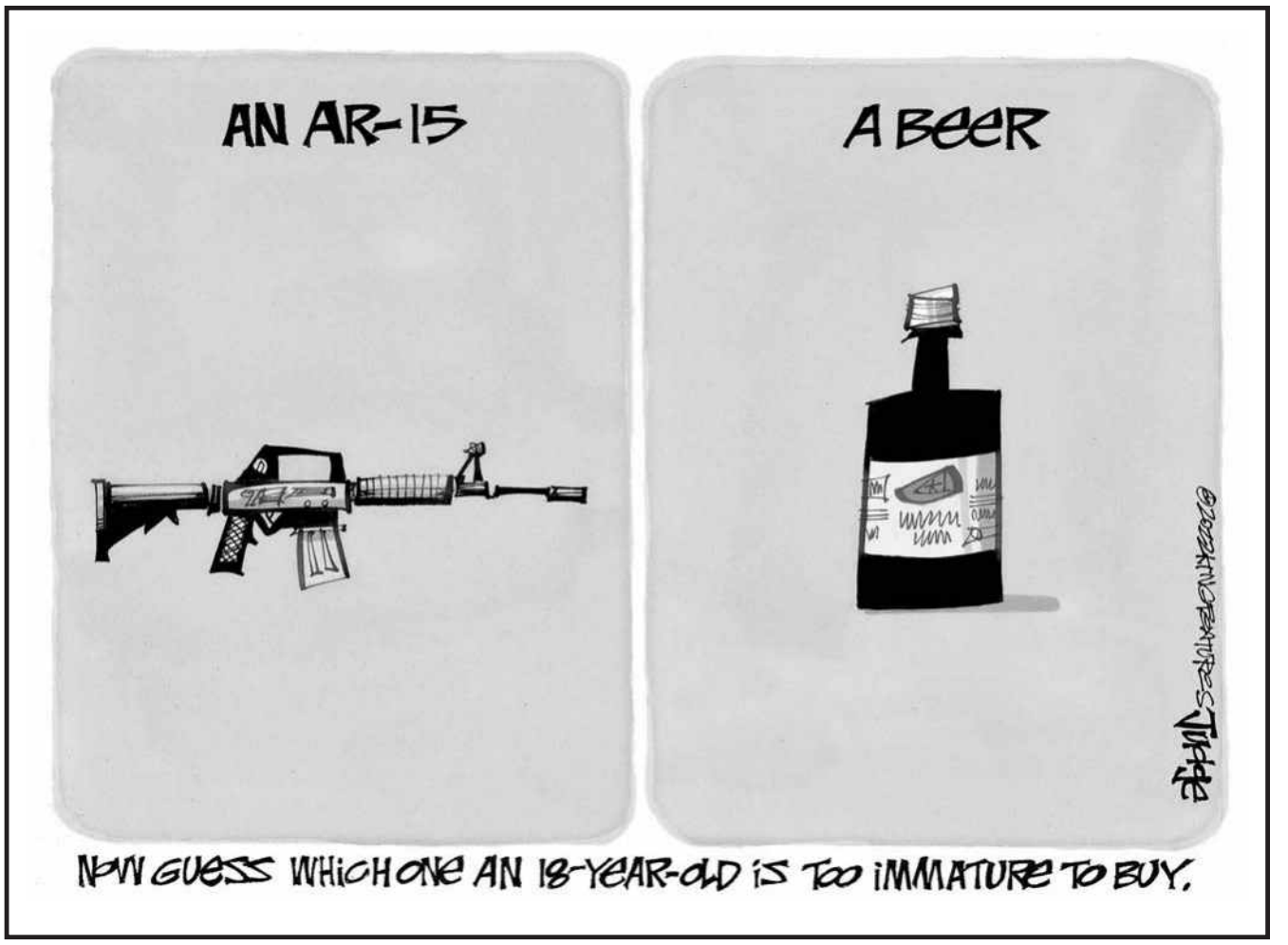


The current state of COVID-19 should invite hope—not complacency

By CORY FRANKLIN and ROBERT A. WEINSTEIN
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The famous Robert Frost poem "The Road Not Taken" begins: "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, / And sorry I could not travel both." The United States and the rest of the world faced a fork in the road with two possible options at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic: Attempt to control the spread of the virus through social measures and lockdowns or let the virus run its course naturally ("let it rip," as some have referred to it) in the hope of inducing herd immunity in the populace.

Countries selected one path or the other, and neither strategy was completely successful. The "flatten the curve" approach in the U.S. failed to prevent virus spread and resulted in large numbers of COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 deaths while simultaneously damaging the economy and harming childhood education. The "let it rip" approach, employed by Sweden, produced marginally better results—roughly the same number of cases per capita as the U.S., less economic downturn and fewer excess deaths—but was hardly an unqualified success. (Deaths per capita are higher in Sweden than in the other Scandinavian countries.)

So, facing our next crossroad, as the sixth wave in the U.S. may be starting to wind down, how best to return to a "normal life"?

The COVID-19 virus has shown it is nimble in mutating, spreading and circumventing vaccine and acquired immunity. This makes the cost of attempting to suppress infections by once again closing schools and instituting lockdowns unacceptably high. Children have already suffered immeasurably, and lockdowns would further cripple the business sector. Nor would this likely work; even the draconian zero-COVID-19 measures of Communist China and North Korea have proved futile in the face of the current, extremely contagious variants.

Alternately, as new variants become more communicable but less severe (current COVID-19 mortality is 90% lower than it was in early 2020), we can hope this unprecedented rapid viral evolution results in a version of COVID-19 that resembles the common cold. Adapting to it would mean living with an illness we can treat and against which we can vaccinate and employ protective measures to help the immunocompromised, elderly and very young.

But this approach, while more practical, must not encourage individual complacency. A majority of the population may contract some form of the virus, but it is not a prospect to cheerfully anticipate. Besides the diminishing but still-present morbidity and mortality, the unresolved future repercussions of even trivial infections—long COVID-19—remain a concern for those who become infected. We should still be careful how we live.

Right now, this makes decisions as routine as attending the theater or eating in crowded restaurants fraught with uncertainty. The government, which once advised the public on what to do and how to live, appears to have washed its hands of most responsibility and now seems to be leaving decisions largely to the public. But expert input would still be of immeasurable benefit in helping us live our lives.

In what venues should we mask? When should we test at home? What is the risk of attending a concert at Soldier Field? Granted, there is no consensus, and the recommendations will change over time, but we could still use some advice from the medical community about the COVID-19 risks of everyday life.

Meanwhile, there is certainly reason for optimism. Antiviral drugs will get only better, and new vaccines are being developed. A "universal" coronavirus vaccine could provide protection against the constantly changing COVID-19 variants. A nasal spray vaccine that induces high levels of antibodies at the nose, the main portal of viral entry into the body, might theoretically be safer and more effective than the current vaccine booster regimen.

While we await those advances, there is no role for complacency by the public. Those officials charged with COVID-19 management must improve case tracking to include the results of home testing, coordinate national and global surveillance of COVID-19 variants, and facilitate wastewater surveillance of the virus, which can be an early indicator of a COVID-19 variant or a generalized outbreak.

At the same time, the government should encourage home testing, optimize the path from testing to delivery of oral COVID-19 medications, fund the development of more comfortable and durable protective masks, and push for better ventilation in residential buildings, businesses and schools.

As we continue the battle against COVID-19 into the third year, recall the eloquence of Winston Churchill as the tide was turning in World War II: "This is no time for boasts or glowing prophecies, but there is this—a year ago our position looked forlorn, and well-nigh desperate, to all eyes but our own. Today we may say aloud before an awe-struck world, 'We are still masters of our fate. We still are captain of our souls.'"

Dr. Cory Franklin is a retired intensive care physician. Dr. Robert A. Weinstein is an infectious disease specialist at Rush University Medical Center.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Endless mass shootings make our outrage dim. We can't let gun violence harden our hearts

By ROBIN ABCARIAN
Los Angeles Times

How do you gauge the effect of so many mass shootings on our psyches?

How can we tell whether we are becoming numb to the daily reports of gun murders at schools, churches, synagogues, grocery stores, massage parlors, theaters?

We think we maintain our sense of outrage and loss, but slowly, over time, the calluses are growing on our hearts.

Early reports about the elementary school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, said that two people had died. Do you know what my first thought was?

"How horrible, but thank God it's only two people."

That first report would prove wildly incomplete. By the time the attack was over, 19 fourth graders and their two teachers had been slain by an 18-year-old armed with an assault weapon.

When I read about the medical building shooting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, eight days later, again, my reaction was horror, outrage once more, and a tiny bit of relief that only four people had been killed. A man unhappy about his back surgery hunted down and killed his surgeon and three other people. Four people lost their lives. Only four.

Please do not think I'm becoming inured. I'm just relieved it wasn't worse.

How much more of this can we take before our elected leaders do something meaningful?

"After Columbine, after Sandy Hook, after Charleston, after Orlando, after Las Vegas, after Parkland, nothing has been done," President Joe Biden said Thursday from the White House. "For God's sake, how much more carnage are we willing to accept? How many more innocent American lives must be taken before we say, 'Enough'? Enough."

He pleaded with Congress to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, or at least raise the minimum age to purchase them from 18 to 21, to strengthen background checks, pass "red flag" and safe-storage laws, repeal the immunity that protects gunmakers from liability lawsuits, and to address the mental health crisis that leads to gun violence.

Maybe, just maybe, this time around recalcitrant Republicans will be motivated to act. Texas Republican Sen. John Cornyn, who was asked by Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell to represent him in bipartisan negotiations on possible gun legislation, offered a sliver of hope when he admitted that it will be "embarrassing" if the Senate can't get anything done on the issue.

Thirty-one years ago, shortly after I was hired by The Times, I covered the aftermath of a hospital shooting in Sandy, Utah. It was a huge story at the time but the sort of news that would earn little coverage today. You see, only one person died. It was not, technically speaking, a mass shooting.

At the time, though, it was unthinkable.

This was four years before a domestic terrorist blew up a federal building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people, including babies in a day care center. Eight years before two teenagers with guns massacred 12 students and a teacher at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. Ten years before terrorists flew planes into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania, killing 2,977 people.

Three decades ago, we were far more easily shocked.

On Sept. 20, 1991, Richard Worthington, a 39-year-old devout Mormon and father of eight, drove to Alta View Hospital in Sandy. He stormed the hospital maternity ward with a handgun, a shotgun and a bomb made of 42 sticks of dynamite, powerful enough to blow up half a city block. His mission: to kill the doctor who had given his wife a tubal ligation two years earlier.

Although Worthington had grudgingly agreed to the procedure, over time he'd decided that he had one more baby in heaven waiting to be born and that the physician had tied his wife's tubes without consent, while she slept.

The hospital siege lasted 18 hours; remember, this was before the FBI developed its active-shooter protocols, which instruct law enforcement to immediately confront a gunman. Worthington took seven hostages—five adults, including a woman who would soon deliver a baby, and two newborns. The doctor hid in an office and called police. When a courageous nurse named Karla Roth tried to disarm him, Worthington killed her.

Producers converged on Utah seeking to buy the rights to the story. It was a tragedy, yes, but also so dramatic that Hollywood's first instinct was to make it into a TV movie. The principals, including the gunman's wife, sold their rights to competing producers.

I remember the movie that aired on CBS in 1992, "Deliver Them From Evil: The Taking of Alta View." It starred Harry Hamlin as Worthington and Teri Garr as one of the nurses. The made-for-TV movie was categorized as a "thriller."

The Utah hospital siege was not a catalyzing event. At the time, it was so bizarre, so random that it did not spark widespread discussion about gun ownership or even about the dearth of mental health services for people like Worthington, who was in so much emotional distress, neighbors said, he claimed the doctor had raped his wife.

A month after Worthington's hospital siege, a gunman in Texas crashed his truck into a Luby's Diner, emerged from the cab and shot 22 people dead before killing himself. (Another victim died later.)

At the time, it was the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history.

And now, three decades later, it is merely the sixth.

Twenty-two of the country's 30 deadliest mass shootings have taken place since 1991.

Sixteen of the 30 deadliest have taken place in the last 10 years. The trend is clear.

Will our Republican senators finally summon the political will to say, "Enough"?

In light of Russia's war with Ukraine, has the UN become irrelevant?

By DANIEL DEPETRIS
Chicago Tribune

Daniel DePetris is a fellow at Defense Priorities and a foreign affairs columnist who has also written for Newsweek *and the* Spectator.

The war in Ukraine, now in its fourth month, has caused many of us to challenge key beliefs previously taken for granted. Europe, in turns out, isn't some special region of the world immune to the depravities and brutalities of armed conflict. The European Union, an organization often referred to as a slow-moving, bureaucratic machine, can actually come together with resolute action when the circumstances call for it. And Russia's Vladimir Putin, depicted in the past as a strategic genius with an uncanny ability to exploit his adversaries' failings, is in actuality a bad gambler who has dug his country into a massive geopolitical hole.

Yet one widespread belief continues to prevail and may have gotten stronger since Russian forces began pummeling Ukrainian cities on Feb. 24: The United Nations, the world's answer to combating the threat of war, is ineffectual at best and irrelevant at worst.

Ask Ukrainian policymakers what they think of the world's preeminent multilateral institution, and you will receive a collection of passionate denunciations and angry diatribes. On April 5, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told the United Nations Security Council point-blank that it failed to do the job the U.N. Charter prescribed for it: maintaining international peace and security. Zelenskyy's frustration was fueled by Russia's veto of a Security Council resolution more than a month prior, which called for the withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukrainian territory. Even U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres acknowledged the Security Council is "paralyzed" on Ukraine, unable to do much to end the bloodshed.

The Security Council is no stranger to bad press. Ukraine, of course, isn't an exception. Despite a peace framework that has withered on the shelf for years, the U.N.'s top policymaking body has been a hapless bystander throughout Syria's civil war, as Russia used its veto more than a dozen times to protect its client, Syrian dictator Bashar Assad, from U.N. sanctions. In May, the Security Council failed to adopt additional sanctions on North Korea for its recent tests of intercontinental ballistic missiles, courtesy of a Russian and Chinese veto.

Observers have categorized the lack of Security Council action as an indictment of the entire organization. Over the years, former diplomats have tabled multiple proposals that would reform the body, including one that aims to dilute the power of the veto in cases of humanitarian emergency. Others have pursued more radical options: In March, a group of U.S. senators introduced a resolution urging the U.S. mission at the United Nations to work toward expelling Russia from the Security Council altogether.

Unfortunately for those who advocate for reform, the chances any of these proposals will be adopted lie somewhere between slim to none. Expelling Russia from the Security Council, for instance, is a nonstarter, for it would require an amendment to the U.N. Charter. Amending the charter isn't as easy as acquiring a simple majority vote — such a feat requires the support of two-thirds of members in the U.N. General Assembly and, crucially, the acquiescence of all permanent members of the Security Council. Russia, in essence, would be able to veto any reform that dilutes its power.

Kicking Russia out of the U.N. General Assembly is possible, at least theoretically. But again, expelling any country from the body could happen only upon recommendation of the Security Council, where Russia itself sits. Even if one believes the General Assembly has the autonomy to make its own decisions on these matters, it's unclear whether kicking out a major power from the chief international forum is a particularly good idea. Is it wise to place even more limits on communication when Europe's most destructive war in 80 years is ongoing? Other great powers, like France, China and even the U.S., may also hesitate to go down this road due to the precedent it would set — if Russia's influence at the U.N. can be downgraded, what's to stop a similar development from happening to them in the future?

This all comes as particularly cruel to those who are suffering at the barrel of a gun. The U.N. was supposed to prevent wars such as the one in Ukraine. As President Harry Truman expressed during a speech to the U.N. General Assembly in October 1950, "The United Nations represents the idea of a universal morality, superior to the interests of individual nations."

But in the 72 years since those words were spoken, it should be clear by now that the concept of a "universal morality" is a perfect illustration of high-minded idealism — about as real as the yeti or the unicorn.

The blunt fact, as illustrated in Russia's continued assault in Ukraine, is that individual self-interest is the engine that makes the world turn. Influential 20th century political theorist Hans Morgenthau got it right when he observed that power — not morality, ethics or aesthetics — is the best metric to understand state behavior and international politics. Countries regardless of their system of government tend to make a decision based on whether it enhances their own power, preserves leverage and gives them an advantage. So nobody should be surprised when permanent members of the Security Council use the veto to block initiatives that seek to embarrass them or limit their freedom of action.

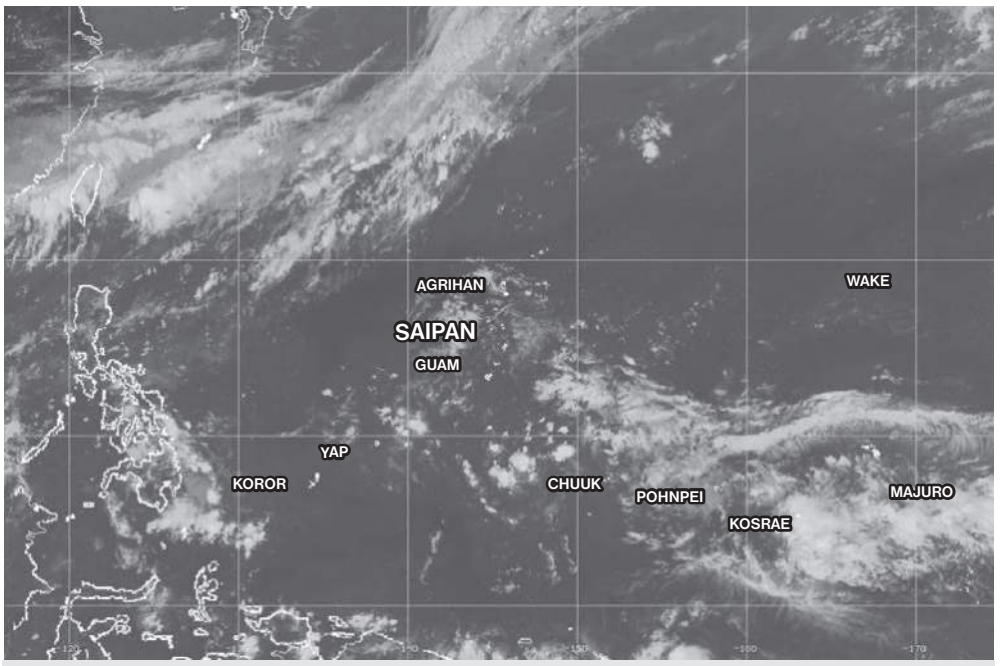
International politics can be very nasty business, as the devastation in Ukrainian cities like Mariupol and Severodonetsk can attest. And when values and interests clash, the latter often emerges triumphant.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy, with Isolated showers. East wind 8 to 14 mph.	Mostly sunny, with Isolated showers. East wind 10 to 16 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph	Partly sunny.	Partly sunny, with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy, with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.
90° 78°	90° 78°	90° 78°	88° 78°	90° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:18 AM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Skies are mostly cloudy this morning, but only isolated showers are evident on IR satellite imagery. Otherwise, moderate trade winds and seas between 3 and 4 feet are seen across the region.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Scattered Thunderstorms	30 / 26 °F
Palau	Partly Cloudy	29 / 24 °F
Yap	AM Thunderstorms	30 / 26 °F
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	30 / 26°F
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	30 / 26 °F
Kosrae	PM Showers	29 / 26 °F
Majuro	Scattered Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	05:46 AM	18:46 PM
Friday	05:46 AM	18:46 PM
Saturday	05:46 AM	18:47 PM
Sunday	05:46 AM	18:47 PM
Monday	05:46 AM	18:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	01:19PM	13:37 PM
Friday	-	01:56 PM	14:30 PM
Saturday	-	02:36 PM	15:25 PM
Sunday	-	03:20 PM	16:26 PM
Monday	-	04:09 PM	17:30 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Light Rain	17 / 13 °F
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	30 / 17 °F
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F
Honolulu	Sunny	29 / 23 °F
London	Partly Cloudy	20 / 15 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	28 / 18 °F
Manila	Scattered Thunderstorms	33 / 27 °F
Melbourne	Light Rain	13 / 9 °F
Miami	Thunderstorms	30 / 25 °F
New York	Partly Cloudy	27 / 16 °F
Osaka	AM Showers	27 / 19 °F
Paris	AM Showers	22 / 15 °F
Busan	Partly Cloudy	23 / 17 °F
Rome	PM Light Rain	29 / 18 °F
Salem	Partly Cloudy	23 / 17 °F
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	31 / 18 F
Seoul	Thunderstorms	24 / 16 °F
Tokyo	PM Showers	23 / 17 °F
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	28 / 15°F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
03:07 AM	Low Tide	2.04
09:47 AM	High Tide	0.92
3:01 PM	Low Tide	1.56
9:03 PM	High Tide	0.75

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6
RS112	3:45PM	7:30PM	3, 6
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:00PM	5:20PM	7
7C3451	3:00PM	6:20PM	3
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

A184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1,2,3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
RS111	8:45AM	2:05PM	3, 6
7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	3
TW9307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 6, 7
OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
TW9307	9:15AM	2:30PM	3

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:00AM	1:00PM	7
BX621	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7
7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	8:30	9:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

LIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

Business

No, you're not going crazy—package sizes are shrinking

By DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP BUSINESS WRITER

It's the inflation you're not supposed to see.

From toilet paper to yogurt and coffee to corn chips, manufacturers are quietly shrinking package sizes without lowering prices. It's dubbed "shrinkflation," and it's accelerating worldwide.

In the U.S., a small box of Kleenex now has 60 tissues; a few months ago, it had 65. Chobani Flips yogurts have shrunk from 5.3 ounces to 4.5 ounces. In the U.K., Nestle slimmed down its Nescafe Azera Americano coffee tins from 100 grams to 90 grams. In India, a bar of Vim dish soap has shrunk from 155 grams to 135 grams.

Shrinkflation isn't new, experts say. But it proliferates in times of high inflation as companies grapple with rising costs for ingredients, packaging, labor and transportation. Global consumer price inflation was up an estimated 7% in May, a pace that will likely continue through September, according to S&P Global.

"It comes in waves. We happen to be in a tidal wave at the moment because of inflation," said Edgar Dworsky, a consumer advocate and former assistant attorney general in Massachusetts who has documented shrinkflation on his Consumer World website for decades.

Dworsky began noticing smaller boxes in the cereal aisle last fall, and shrinkflation has ballooned from there. He can cite dozens of examples, from Cottonelle Ultra Clean Care toilet paper, which has shrunk from 340 sheets per roll to 312, to Folgers coffee, which downsized its 51-ounce container to 43.5 ounces but still says it will make up to 400 cups. (Folgers says it's using a new technology that results in lighter-weight beans.)

Dworsky said shrinkflation appeals to manufacturers because they know customers will notice price increases but won't keep track of net weights or small details, like the number of sheets on a roll of toilet paper. Companies can also employ tricks to draw attention away from downsizing, like marking smaller packages with bright new labels that draw shoppers' eyes.

That's what Fritos did. Bags of Fritos Scoops marked "Party Size" used to be 18 ounces; some are still on sale at a grocery chain in Texas. But almost every other big chain is now advertising "Party Size" Fritos Scoops that are 15.5 ounces—and more expensive.

PepsiCo didn't respond when asked about Fritos. But it did acknowledge the shrinking of Gatorade bottles. The company recently began phasing out 32-ounce bottles in favor of 28-ounce ones, which are tapered in the middle to make it easier to hold them. The changeover has been in the works for years and isn't related to the current economic climate, PepsiCo said. But it didn't respond when asked why the 28-ounce version is more expensive.

Likewise, Kimberly-Clark—which makes both Cottonelle and Kleenex—didn't respond to requests for comment on the reduced package sizes. Proctor & Gamble Co. didn't respond when asked about Pantene Pro-V Curl Perfection conditioner, which downsized from 12 fluid ounces to 10.4 fluid ounces but still costs $3.99.

Earth's Best Organic Sunny Day Snack Bars went from eight bars per box to seven, but the price listed at multiple stores remains $3.69. Hain Celestial Group, the brand's owner, didn't respond to an email seeking comment.

Some companies are straightforward about the changes. In Japan, snack maker Calbee Inc. announced 10% weight reductions—and 10% price increases—for many of its products in May, including veggie chips and crispy edamame. The company blamed a sharp rise in the cost of raw materials.

Domino's Pizza announced in January it was shrinking the size of its 10-piece chicken wings to eight pieces for the same $7.99 carryout price. Domino's cited the rising cost of chicken.

FDA advisers back Novavax COVID shots as 4th US option

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP MEDICAL WRITER

AP

In this image provided by the Serum Institute of India, vials of freshly manufactured Novavax COVID-19 vaccines wait to be labeled in 2022, in Pune, India.

American adults who haven't yet gotten vaccinated against COVID-19 may soon get another choice, as advisers to the Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday backed a more traditional type of shot.

Next, the FDA must decide whether to authorize the protein vaccine made by latecomer Novavax as the nation's fourth coronavirus shot for adults. It's made with more conventional technology than today's dominant Pfizer and Moderna shots and the lesser-used Johnson & Johnson option.

N ovavax shots are already available in Australia, Canada, parts of Europe and multiple other countries, either for initial vaccinations or as mix-and-match boosters. But U.S. clearance is a key hurdle for the Maryland-based company.

FDA's vaccine chief Dr. Peter Marks said another choice in the U.S. may entice at least some vaccine holdouts--whatever their reason--to consider rolling up their sleeves.

"We do have a problem with vaccine uptake that is very serious in the United States," Marks said. "Anything we can do to get people more comfortable to accept these potentially life-saving products is something that we feel we are compelled to do."

A final FDA decision isn't expected immediately, as the agency finishes combing through the data.

Nor is it clear how widely a Novavax vaccine would be used, at least right away. Only about 27 million U.S. adults remain unvaccinated, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Eventually, Novavax hopes also to become a choice for the millions more who haven't yet had a booster dose of today's vaccines, regardless of which shot people got originally.

The FDA advisory panel voted that the benefits of two primary Novavax doses outweigh its risks—but they had a lot of questions about the shots' role at this point in the pandemic.

"This vaccine does indeed fill some unmet needs," such as an option for people with allergies to competing shots, said Dr. Michael Nelson of the University of Virginia.

Amazon says it prevented 4 billion bad listings in 2021

By HALELUYA HADERO
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Amazon, which has been under increasing pressure to tackle counterfeit products, said in its second-annual report that it prevented 4 billion bad listings from making it onto its site and got rid of more than 3 million phony products last year.

The results, released Wednesday, were mixed compared with 2020, when Amazon blocked 10 billion listings and got rid of 2 million phony products. The Seattle-based e-commerce juggernaut also saw a decrease in complaints of intellectual property infringement in 2021 while growing the number of active brands on its site.

According to the report, Amazon stopped more than 2.5 million attempts to create fake accounts on its third-party marketplace, where sellers can list their products directly to consumers. That number is about a 58% decline from the attempts it said it stopped in 2020, which the company credits to its vetting process and other efforts to deter bad actors.

But Juozas Kaziukėnas, the founder of e-commerce research firm Marketplace Pulse, said it can be hard to independently know what actually caused those declines — whether it's Amazon's policies or other factors.

Counterfeit sellers have long plagued Amazon and other e-commerce retailers, including eBay. And Amazon has stepped up efforts to fight it in recent years amid heightened scrutiny from brands and lawmakers pushing for anti-counterfeit legislation.

Amazon backs a House version of an online retail bill, known as the INFORM Act, which would require online marketplaces to collect contact and financial information from high-volume sellers and disclose some of the information to consumers. Amazon had opposed an earlier Senate version of the bill, which would require online retailers to gather information from a larger group of third-party merchants.

Meanwhile, TechNet, a lobbying group that counts Amazon and eBay as some of its members, is pushing back against another bill that would make the e-commerce platforms liable for counterfeit goods sold on their site. An Amazon spokesperson said in an emailed statement the company recognizes "the intent of the legislation is to stop counterfeits" and looks forward to working with Congress to achieve that goal.

Japan's economy contracts, but at smaller rate than thought

TOKYO (AP)—The Japanese economy contracted in the first quarter, but at a slower pace than earlier estimated, the government said Wednesday.

The world's third-largest economy contracted at an annual rate of 0.5%, according to Cabinet Office data. That was smaller than the 1.0% contraction in the preliminary estimate for Japan's real gross domestic product, or GDP, released in May.

The annual rate shows how the economy would have grown if the quarterly rate were to continue for a year. Japan's economy contracted 0.1% in January-March from the previous quarter, better than the 0.2% quarter-on-quarter contraction in the preliminary data.

Consumer spending and other private demand was stronger than previously thought.

AP

People walk across the famed Shibuya scramble crossing as the sun sets behind the skyscraper Monday, Oct. 11, 2021, in Tokyo.

The upward revision was a pleasant surprise for analysts.

"Looking ahead, we expect GDP to rebound in 2Q mainly due to better private consumption, yet higher inflation on commodities will likely limit the gains in real terms," Robert Carnell, regional head of research Asia-Pacific at ING, said in a report.

The expected reopening of the country to tourists as limits imposed to curb COVID-19 infections are lifted, should also boost growth.

On the negative side, Japan, which imports almost all its oil, much of its food and various products, has been slammed by rising prices for energy and other commodities, partly because of the war in Ukraine.

Japan has for years been fending off deflation, or a spiraling down of prices. Low wage growth and an aging and shrinking population have slowed economic activity and discouraged corporate investment.

Nation

School police chief a no-show at Uvalde City Council meeting

UVALDE, Texas (AP)—The school district police chief criticized for waiting too long before ordering law enforcement to confront and kill the gunman during a mass shooting at a Texas elementary school did not appear at a City Council meeting in Uvalde on Tuesday, despite being newly elected to the panel.

Mayor Don McLaughlin said he was unable to explain why the district police Chief Pete Arredondo wasn't at the brief meeting. Two weeks ago, 19 students and two teachers were killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde. Law enforcement and state officials have struggled to present an accurate timeline and details, and have stopped releasing information about the police response.

McLaughlin told reporters at the meeting that he was frustrated with the lack of information.

"We want facts and answers, just like everybody else," the mayor said.

Steven McCraw, the head of the Texas Department of Public Safety, has said Arredondo, who was in charge of the multi-agency response on May 24, made the "wrong decision" to not order officers to breach the classroom more quickly to confront the gunman.

As the mayor spoke in Uvalde on Tuesday, lawmakers in Washington heard testimony from the son of a woman who was killed in a recent mass shooting in Buffalo, New York, as lawmakers work toward a bipartisan agreement on gun safety measures. And at a White House press briefing, actor Matthew McConaughey, a Uvalde native, spoke with passion about his conversations with the families of the children who were killed and the need for more stringent gun control.

The gunman, 18-year-old Salvador Ramos, spent roughly 80 minutes inside Robb Elementary, and more than an hour passed from when the first officers followed him into the building and when he was killed, according to an official timeline. In the meantime, parents outside begged police to rush in and panicked children called 911 from inside.

AP

Uvalde Mayor Don McLaughlin, Jr., center, speaks during a special emergency city council meeting to reissue the mayor's declaration of local state of disaster due to the recent school shooting at Robb Elementary School, Tuesday, June 7, 2022, in Uvalde, Texas. Two

Arredondo has not responded to repeated interview requests and questions from The Associated Press.

After the City Council meeting, Alfred Garza III, whose 10-year-old daughter, Amerie Jo, was among the Uvalde students killed, told reporters that he attended the meeting to see what else he could learn about what happened that day.

"I have so many questions and not every one can be answered. They're still collecting data, they're still collecting information on what happened," Garza said.

He said he had been curious as to whether Arredondo would attend the meeting, and said he had "mixed feelings" about the district police chief's absence.

"He obviously didn't show up for a reason," Garza said, adding that he assumed Arredondo thought if he did appear he would get a lot of questions.

Garza said he doesn't have "a lot of ill will" toward Arredondo, nor does he blame just one person for what happened, but he does think more could have been done that day.

"They did take a long time to get in there," Garza said.

Since the shooting, there have been tensions between state and local authorities over how police handled the shooting and communicated what happened to the public.

The Texas Department of Public Safety has begun referring questions about the investigation to the Uvalde-area district attorney, Christina Mitchell Busbee. She hasn't responded to repeated interview requests and questions from AP.

McLaughlin said he has asked officials for a briefing but "we're not getting it."

He said the city's police chief was on vacation at the time of the shooting and that the acting city police commander was on the scene.

Actor McConaughey calls for gun legislation at White House

AP

Actor Matthew McConaughey holds a picture or Alithia Ramirez, 10, who was killed in the mass shooting at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas, as he speaks during a press briefing at the White House, Tuesday, June 7, 2022, in Washington.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Academy Award–winning actor Matthew McConaughey made an appearance at the White House Tuesday to call on Congress to "reach a higher ground" and pass gun control legislation in honor of the children and teachers killed in last month's shooting rampage at an elementary school in his hometown of Uvalde, Texas.

In a highly personal 22-minute speech, McConaughey exhorted a gridlocked Congress to pass gun reforms that can save lives without infringing on Second Amendment rights.

McConaughey, a gun owner himself, used his star power to make an argument for legislation in a fashion that the Biden administration has not been able to muster, offering a clear connection to the small Texas town and vividly detailing the sheer loss of the 19 children and two teachers in the second worst mass school shooting in U.S. history.

He specifically called on Congress to bolster background checks for gun purchases and raise the minimum age to purchase an AR-15-style rifle to 21 from 18.

"We want secure and safe schools and we want gun laws that won't make it so easy for the bad guys to get the damn guns," McConaughey said.

McConaughey, who earlier this year considered a run for governor of Texas before taking a pass, met briefly in private with President Joe Biden before addressing the White House press corps from the James Brady briefing room.

McConaughey has also met with key lawmakers this week, including Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee that handles gun legislation, Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, and the panel's ranking Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa.

Also Tuesday, the son of Ruth Whitfield, an 86-year-old woman killed when a gunman opened fire in a racist attack on Black shoppers in Buffalo, New York, last month, called on Congress to act against the "cancer of white supremacy" and the nation's epidemic of gun violence.

"Is there nothing that you personally are willing to do to stop the cancer of white supremacy and the domestic terrorism it inspires?" Garnell Whitfield Jr. asked members of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

McConaughey, who declined to take questions, spoke of his own connections to the town. He said his mother taught kindergarten less than a mile from Uvalde's Robb Elementary School, the site of the May 24 shooting. He also noted that Uvalde was the place where he was taught about responsibilities that come with gun ownership.

"Uvalde is where I was taught to revere the power and the capability of the tool that we call a gun," he said.

McConaughey said he and his wife drove back to Uvalde on the day after the shooting and spent time with the families of some of the victims and others directly affected by the rampage.

He said every parent he spoke to expressed that "they want their children's dreams to live on."

"They want to make their loss of life matter," McConaughey said.

He related the personal stories of a number of the victims.

He told the story of Maite Rodriguez, an aspiring marine biologist. McConaughey's wife, Camila, sitting nearby, held Maite's green Converse sneakers, which had a red heart on the right toe to represent her love of nature.

ACROSS THE NATION

California's Newsom cruises to easy primary victory

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California Gov. Gavin Newsom cruised to an easy victory in Tuesday's primary barely one year after surviving a recall attempt, advancing to the November general election where he will be an overwhelming favorite to defeat a little-known Republican state senator. Early returns Tuesday showed Newsom receiving just over 60% of the votes. He'll face second-place finisher Brian Dahle, a Republican state lawmaker and farmer from the sparsely populated northeast corner of the state. He had about 15% of the votes. In the U.S. Senate race, Democratic incumbent Alex Padilla had an equally easy time advancing to a November runoff. He was appointed to the seat by Newsom last year after Kamala Harris resigned to become vice president.

1 killed, 4 injured in California mountain climbing falls

MOUNT SHASTA, Calif. (AP)—A mountain climbing guide was killed and at least four other people were injured in separate accidents over the past two days while trying to summit the peak of Mount Shasta in Northern California in treacherous conditions, authorities said Tuesday. Jillian Webster, 32, of Redmond, Oregon was leading a man and a woman Monday morning when one of the climbers slipped and all three, who were roped together, fell 1,500 to 2,500 feet, the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office said. Webster was pronounced dead at a hospital while a rescue team found the man in critical condition with a head injury and a broken leg, the Sheriff's Office said. The woman had a broken ankle.

Asia

US stresses allied cooperation in face of North Korea threats

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman met with her counterparts from South Korea and Japan on Wednesday, emphasizing the U.S. commitment to defend its allies and trilateral security cooperation to confront an accelerating nuclear threat from North Korea.

The latest top-level meetings between the countries came as North Korea apparently presses ahead with preparations for its first nuclear test explosion in nearly five years, which U.S. officials say could occur in the coming days.

After a meeting in Seoul, Sherman and the South Korean and Japanese vice foreign ministers issued a joint statement condemning North Korea's provocative streak in weapons demonstrations this year and pledging closer security cooperation to curb the growing threats.

Sherman

The statement said Sherman reaffirmed "steadfast" U.S. commitments to the defense of South Korea and Japan, including "extended deterrence," referring to an assurance to defend its allies with its full military capabilities, including nuclear.

"The United States, the Republic of Korea and Japan are fully and closely aligned on the DPRK," Sherman said in a news conference, using the initials of North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Sherman noted that North Korea since last September has significantly increased the pace and scale of its ballistic launches, posing a "serious threat" to security in the region and beyond, and urged Pyongyang to cease taking "these provocative and destabilizing actions and to commit to the path of diplomacy."

NASA to launch rockets from Aussie space port

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—NASA will launch a research rocket from remote northern Australia this month in the agency's first blast off from a commercial space port outside the United States.

Three suborbital sounding rockets will be launched from the Arnhem Space Center on Indigenous-owned land near the mining town of Nhulunbuy in the Northern Territory on June 26, July 4 and 12, said NASA and the launch pad's owner, Equatorial Launch Australia.

The launch site was chosen because it is in the Southern Hemisphere and close to the equator.

"This commercial launch range in Australia opens up new access to the Southern Hemisphere's night sky, expanding the possibilities for future science missions," NASA associate administrator for the Science Mission Directorate Thomas Zurbuchen said in a statement.

The 12.2-meter (40-foot), 2,200-kilogram (4,900-pound), Canadian-designed Black Brant IX rockets would focus on the Alpha Centauri A and B star systems. A third mission would study X-rays emanating from the interstellar medium—the clouds of gases and particles in the space between stars.

NASA's Heliophysics Division director Nicky Fox said the launches more than 300 kilometers (186 miles) into space would "allow us to explore how a star's light can influence a planet's habitability among other things."

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese welcomed the first NASA rocket launch in Australia since 1995. The launch site then was a military rocket range near Woomera in South Australia state.

"This is a really exciting project. This is about not just the rocket launches itself, but it's about sending a message to younger Australians and, indeed, Australians of any age, who might be looking at retraining for future careers, of how important science is," Albanese said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Indonesian police arrest Japanese man wanted for fraud

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Authorities on the southern tip of Indonesia's Sumatra island arrested a Japanese fugitive accused of fraud in Japan in connection with the receipt of a massive amount of COVID-19 subsidies for small businesses in distress, police said Wednesday. Mitsuhiro Taniguchi, 47, was arrested late night Tuesday in Kalirejo village of Central Lampung district, by immigration officers and backed by local police, said National Police spokesperson Dedi Prasetyo. Taniguchi was wanted by Japanese police over pandemic subsidy fraud and left Japan for Indonesia in October 2020, Prasetyo said.

Japan, NATO step up ties amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese and NATO officials agreed Tuesday to step up military cooperation and joint exercises as they shared concerns that Russia's invasion of Ukraine is causing a deterioration of the security environment in Europe and Asia. Japanese Defense Minister Nobuo Kishi said at the beginning of his meeting with NATO Military Committee chief Rob Bauer that Japan hopes to strengthen its ties with European countries and welcomes NATO's expanded involvement in the Indo-Pacific region. "The security of Europe and Asia are closely intertwined, especially now with the international community facing serious challenges," Kishi said. Bauer's visit in Tokyo comes as Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force is participating in NATO naval exercises in the Mediterranean Sea.

China, Cambodia breaking ground on joint port project

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodia denied again Tuesday that it will allow any Chinese military presence at a port where it and China are beginning an expansion this week that has prompted concern in the United States and elsewhere that it will be used by Beijing as a naval outpost on the Gulf of Thailand. Chief government spokesman Phay Siphan described the expansion of the Ream Naval Base as "cooperation between China and Cambodia" and said the Chinese ambassador to Cambodia will preside over the groundbreaking on Wednesday along with Cambodia's defense minister and other senior military officials. He denied, however, a report in the Washington Post newspaper citing an anonymous Chinese official that the facility on the northern side of the Cambodian base would be used in part by the Chinese military.

World

Russia nearing capture of Donbas region of Ukraine

MAXAR TECHNOLOGIES VIA AP
This satellite image provided by Maxar Technologies shows destroyed buildings in Rubizhne, Ukraine near Severodonetsk, on Monday, June 6, 2022.

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Russia drew closer to its goal of fully capturing Ukraine's eastern industrial heartland of coal mines and factories as the Kremlin claimed to have taken control of 97% of one of the two provinces that make up the Donbas region.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said Tuesday that Moscow's forces hold nearly all of Luhansk province. And it appears that Russia now occupies roughly half of Donetsk province, according to Ukrainian officials and military analysts.

After abandoning its bungled attempt to storm Kyiv two months ago, Russia declared that taking the entire Donbas is its main objective. Moscow-backed separatists have been battling Ukrainian government forces in the Donbas since 2014, and the region has borne the brunt of the Russian onslaught in recent weeks.

Early in the war, Russian troops also took control of the entire Kherson region and a large part of the Zaporizhzhia region, both in the south. Russian officials and their local appointees have talked about plans for those regions to either declare their independence or be folded into Russia.

But in what may be the latest instance of anti-Russian sabotage inside Ukraine, Russian state media said Tuesday that an explosion at a cafe in the city of Kherson wounded four people. Tass called the apparent bombing in the Russian-occupied city a "terror act."

Before the Feb. 24 invasion, Ukrainian officials said Russia controlled some 7% of the country, including the Crimean Peninsula, which Russia annexed in 2014, and areas held by the separatists in Donetsk and Luhansk. Last week, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Russian forces hold 20% of the country.

WORLD BRIEFS

Migrant caravan on the move in southern Mexico

HUIXTLA, Mexico (AP)—Several thousand migrants walked on through southern Mexico on Tuesday, covering ground while authorities showed no signs yet of trying to stop them. The largest migrant caravan of the year provided a live illustration to regional leaders meeting in Los Angeles this week at the Summit of the Americas of the challenges governments face in managing immigration flows. Mexico has dissolved smaller caravans this year through force, but more recently by offering them transportation to other cities farther north where they could legalize their status.

10 killed, 50 more injured in train derailment in Iran

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—A passenger train partially derailed in eastern Iran early Wednesday, killing at least 10 passengers and injuring 50 more, some critically, state TV said. The report said the number of casualties could rise. Four of the seven cars in the train derailed in the early morning darkness near the desert city of Tabas, the report said. Rescue teams on ambulances and three helicopters were arriving in the remote area where communication is poor. The derailment happened some 50 kilometers (30 miles) to Tabas, about 550 kilometers (340 miles) southeast of the capital Tehran, on the rail that links the town to the central city of Yazd.

Next UN assembly president warns world in dangerous crisis

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Hungarian Ambassador Csaba Korosi was elected Tuesday as the next president of the U.N. General Assembly, and he warned immediately that the world is in the throes of a dangerous crisis and the credibility of the United Nations is at stake. Korosi, who takes over the presidency of the 193-member world body in September, said there is "a red alert" for the global climate and crises in food, energy and water supplies. In addition, he said, people everywhere are still affected by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, "the global economy is at the threshold of recession and the sovereign debts are at an unprecedented level." On top of that, conflicts this century—including in Ukraine—are fiercer and "a postcard from the future," Korosi said.

Environment

Carbon dioxide now over 50% higher than preindustrial times

» With levels 'not seen for millions of years'

By MURI ASSUNÇÃO
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Levels of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere have soared to levels that are now more than 50% higher than in preindustrial times, scientists with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Friday.

Carbon dioxide, or CO2, measured at NOAA's Mauna Loa Atmospheric Baseline Observatory in Hawaii peaked for 2022 at 421 parts per million in May, "pushing the atmosphere further into territory not seen for millions of years," experts said.

Prior to the Industrial Revolution — and for almost 6,000 years of human civilization — CO2 levels were consistently around 280 ppm. Since that period of profound technological transformations, which began in the 18th century, scientists estimate that humans have generated around 1.5 trillion tons of CO2 pollution, much of which will continue to warm the planet for thousands of years to come.

ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES/TNS

Sunlight is reflected off power lines as steam rises from the James H. Miller coal power plant in Adamsville, Alabama, on April 11, 2021.

The announcement was made by scientists from NOAA — a federal agency that provides science and service to protect the Earth's natural resources — and from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego.

"The science is irrefutable: humans are altering our climate in ways that our economy and our infrastructure must adapt to," NOAA Administrator Rick Spinrad said in a statement.

"We can see the impacts of climate change around us every day. The relentless increase of carbon dioxide measured at Mauna Loa is a stark reminder that we need to take urgent, serious steps to become a more Climate Ready Nation," he added.

According to NOAA, carbon dioxide pollution is generated by the burning of fossil fuels for transportation and electrical generation, as well as cement manufacturing, deforestation, agriculture and other practices.

"Along with other greenhouse gases, CO2 traps heat radiating from the planet's surface that would otherwise escape into space, causing the planet's atmosphere to warm steadily, which unleashes a cascade of weather impacts, including episodes of extreme heat, drought and wildfire activity, as well as heavier precipitation, flooding and tropical storm activity," the agency said.

"It's depressing that we've lacked the collective willpower to slow the relentless rise in CO2," said Ralph Keeling, a renowned geochemistry professor who runs the Scripps program at Mauna Loa. "Fossil-fuel use may no longer be accelerating, but we are still racing at top speed towards a global catastrophe," he added.

Pieter Tans, senior scientist with the Global Monitoring Laboratory, shared Keeling's frustration, saying that the high levels of CO2 in the atmosphere are nothing new — but still, the world has so far refused to act accordingly.

"We have known about this for half a century, and have failed to do anything meaningful about it," he said. "What's it going to take for us to wake up?"

Colorado will lose half its snow by 2080 and look more like Arizona, federal scientists conclude

By BRUCE FINLEY
THE DENVER POST

Parts of Colorado, Wyoming and Utah are drying out due to climate-driven changes in stream flows, and these states will shift to become more like the most arid states of the Southwest, federal researchers found in a scientific study published last week.

The lead author of the study said Colorado will experience a 50% to 60% reduction in snow by 2080.

"We're not saying Colorado is going to become a desert. But we see increased aridity moving forward," said hydrologist Katrina Bennett at the federal government's Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico.

The researchers used an artificial intelligence "machine learning" system that allowed them to analyze massive amounts of data collected over 30 years including soil moisture, volumes of water in streams, evapotranspiration rates, temperature and precipitation across the varying landscapes within the Colorado River Basin. Tracking the West's hydrology on such a scale previously would have taken years.

They concluded that large losses of snow will transform high elevation areas and that the phenomenon of melting snow that creates water will disappear entirely in some areas as temperatures rise.

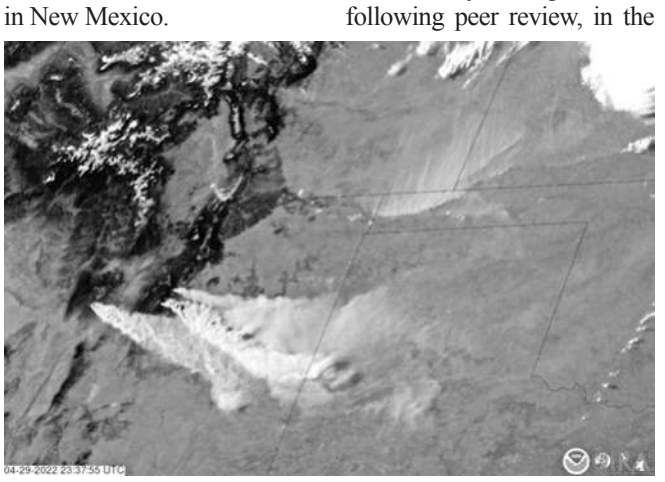
The study was published, following peer review, in the journal Earth and Space Science and distributed Thursday by officials at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

For Colorado and surrounding "upper basin" states, the scientists projected wide shrinking of snow, leading to less spring snow melting followed by decreasing water in streams, especially in the Rocky Mountains. The study predicted, in particular, markedly increased aridity along the Green River as it flows near the borders of Colorado, Utah and Wyoming.

"In some parts of Colorado, we will see a higher-elevation preservation of snowpack, because it is so high," Bennett said, citing the mountains above Leadville in central-western Colorado.

"But other areas like the San Juan Mountains were seen to be losing snowpack significantly," she said.

The unsupervised machine-learning system greatly accelerates analysis of weather and hydrology data, giving a robust new way of incorporating vast data to anticipate changes and track trends. Bennett said she and her colleagues plan to apply their system to analyze the drought-prone Rio Grande River Basin covering southern Colorado, New Mexico and Texas.



NOAA/TNS

Wildfire smoke blows eastward from the mountains of New Mexico as a sandstorm sweeps down from eastern Colorado in this April 29, 2022, NOAA satellite image.

Cruise liners try to rewrite climate rules despite vows

By ED DAVEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The trade group representing the cruise ship industry unsuccessfully pushed international authorities to water down new environmental regulations despite its members' climate commitments, experts in marine air pollution warn. Late last month, the International Maritime Organization rejected a cruise industry effort that would have improved cruise ships' carbon pollution scores. Environmental groups say it also would have led to more air pollution by allowing cruise liners to continue with business as usual.

The Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) has membership that accounts for 95% of global cruise trips. Its four biggest members, Carnival Cruise Line, Royal Caribbean, Norwegian Cruise Line and MSC Cruises, tout their climate awareness and have all committed to drastically cutting emissions.

Yet according to a filing in April, the cruise ship association lobbied the International Maritime Organization's members to change proposed rules in a manner critics say will lead to increased emissions, while saving cruise lines money.

The International Maritime Organization is the United Nations body responsible for regulating the safety and environmental impact of shipping. Some 175 member states vote on its proposed legislation.

Cruise ships float at PortMiami, on April 7, 2020, in Miami. AP

The proposed change would "certainly" have had a negative climate impact, said John Maggs, president of the Clean Shipping Coalition, an umbrella group of environmental groups that has official status at the maritime organization.

"The regulations are very weak anyway, and CLIA is trying to make them even weaker," said Maggs, who has almost 30 years in the field. "They are trying to water down the regulations."

But the cruise industry argues the new regulation misrepresents the efficiency of their vessels, which should not be penalized for spending more time in port than cargo ships.

Shipping emits about 2.9% of global carbon dioxide emissions, just over a billion tons of CO2 annually. Cruise liners produce more carbon dioxide annually on average than any other kind of ship due to their air conditioning, heated pools and other hotel amenities, studies have shown.

Carnival, which describes itself as "sustainable from ship to shore," has committed to reducing its carbon emissions 40% by 2030 to meet the terms of the Paris Agreement, which aims to limit global temperature rises to 1.5C.

Royal Caribbean and MSC Cruises have each pledged to meet net zero emissions by 2050, while Norwegian Cruise Lines has spoken of a "long-term goal" to reach climate neutrality.

Life & Style

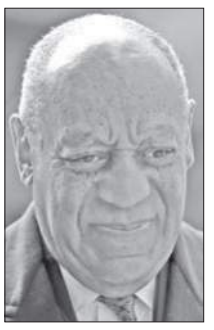
Bill Cosby's civil trial accuser says he molested her at 16

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—Judy Huth recalled being distraught while describing an allegation that Bill Cosby sexually assaulted her near a game room at the Playboy Mansion in 1975.

While shedding tears, Huth testified in a civil trial against Cosby on Tuesday that he molested her when she was 16. She claims Cosby tried to put his hand down her tight pants, exposed himself before he forced Huth to touch him sexually on a bed in a "blue room," which she says was adjacent to the game room.

"He forced himself on me," recalled Huth, whose testimony came in the Los Angeles County trial over a lawsuit she filed. Cosby denies her allegations.

"I was shocked to say the least," she said.



Cosby

Huth, 64, said the incident happened after she and her high school friend, Donna Samuelson, accompanied Cosby on a visit to the mansion. She said he gave them a tour of the mansion and game room before they played some games including Donkey Kong, and she went to the restroom. She then said Cosby forced her to perform a sex act in the bedroom.

The trial represents one of the last remaining legal claims against Cosby after his Pennsylvania criminal conviction was thrown out by an appeals court last year, and his insurer settled many other lawsuits against his will. He is not attending the trial, and will not testify, but parts of a video deposition he gave shortly after the 2014 lawsuit was filed will be played.

During Huth's testimony, she said Cosby kept pursuing her after she told him that she was "15 or 16" years old. She claims to have told Cosby that she was on her menstrual cycle – even though she was not – in hopes that he would stop.

"I was trying to deflect," she said. "But he didn't stop. I just closed my eyes. … It was so fast. Maybe five minutes. Quick."

Afterwards, Huth said Cosby walked out the room before she ultimately followed him to the grotto area of the mansion, where both took a photo – which was shown in court. As Huth looked at the photo, she said felt "mad, duped and foolish."

Huth

"I felt let down. I was hurt," she said. The photo - which has been shown to jurors several times - has Cosby wearing a red beanie and smiling next to the teenage Huth.

During cross examination, Cosby's attorney Jennifer Bonjean accused Huth of being a liar several times for delivering two versions of her story. The initial lawsuit filed in 2014 alleged that the incident took place in late 1973 or 1974, when Huth was 15 and Samuelson 16.

A few weeks before the trial began, Huth and her attorneys said that further investigation of the evidence allowed them to determine that it actually happened in the spring of 1975, when Huth was 16 and Samuelson 17.

Bonjean accused Huth of comparing stories with Samuelson before she spoke with the Los Angeles Police Department in 2016. Huth refuted Bonjean's claim.

"You lied about the date, the year this happened and your age," Bonjean said.

Huth said she wanted to leave the mansion. However, she said she elected to stay because there was no other transportation out of Samuelson, who drove and wasn't ready to leave.

Huth said the alleged incident with Cosby was still on her mind. But since Cosby left for an event and both stayed, they changed into their swimsuits and took a swim before playing backgammon with a couple women. She says one of the women wearing a purple robe was accompanied by actor Peter Lawford.

VANDALIZED DANIEL FURY/BLACK CAT TOURS VIA AP

This image provided by Daniel Fury shows the "Bewitched" statue partially covered with red paint, Monday, June 6, 2022, in Salem, Mass. Witnesses called police Monday to report someone spray painting the bronze statue, police said. The statue depicts actor Elizabeth Montgomery as lead character Samantha Stephens in the 1960s sitcom sitting on a broomstick in front of a crescent moon.

Jeff Goldblum takes one more bite out of 'Jurassic World'

NEW YORK (AP)—There is only one person who, in the middle of a massive dystopic dinosaur movie, can utter a line like "That's bananas" with just the right timing and inflection.

Goldblum

For almost three decades, off and on, Jeff Goldblum has played Dr. Ian Malcolm with particular Goldblumian panache. As the stylish chaos theorist of the "Jurassic Park" and "Jurassic World" films, Goldblum is voice of reason and comedy relief in one, an auger of nature's unpredictability who can't help marveling at seeing his theories in action, even if that poses immediate danger to himself.

It's one of the 69-year-old actor's best-known characters. Yet in even big movies like "Jurassic Park" and "Independence Day," Goldblum has such a singular manner and much-imitated tempo that he's never been particularly defined by those roles. It's more that Goldblum, in putting his own idiosyncratic spin on them, marks the characters, rather than the other way around. Life finds a way in "Jurassic Park," and so does Goldblum.

In Colin Trevorrow's "Jurassic World: Dominion, " which opens in theaters Thursday, Goldblum—along with original cast members Laura Dern and Sam Neill—returns to close out the franchise's second trilogy of films in a sprawling adventure set in a near future where dinosaurs have spread across the world, as has ecological imbalance and a plague of giant locusts.

For Goldblum, the son of a doctor and host of the Disney+ series "The World According to Jeff Goldblum," the subjects and themes of the movie dovetail with some of his own curiosities and interests in how we might, he says, "upgrade our stewardship of the planet." What does Goldblum, the movies' resident chaotician, think of our increasingly tumultuous times?

"I don't know anything about what I'm talking about. But let's utter the word 'entropy' and 'systems' and how things break down," Goldblum says, speaking from London. "Before the butterfly comes out of the chrysalis, the caterpillar has some convulsions, chaotic convulsions. But it's not death, necessarily. It's the onset of transformation."

Satisfied that he's perhaps arrived at a kernel of truth, Goldblum concludes, "Hey, what about that?"

Daughter tires of mother's commentary on relationship

DEAR ABBY: I am a 29-year-old woman in a healthy, loving relationship with my boyfriend of 2 1/2 years. We talk about marriage and kids and are committed to each other. We know we are each other's special one. He recently bought a home, and we live together. My issue is with my mother. I feel she won't be happy with me until I'm married and have children.

She and Dad met and were married within six months, so to her, any relationship that lasts longer than that without marriage or an engagement must not be the real deal. It has been extremely frustrating over the past couple of years. She slips in judgmental comments all the time and clearly doesn't respect my relationship with the man I have chosen.

If I try to defend my life and our relationship, she says I'm too defensive and must be unhappy. If I say nothing, which has been my approach for the past six months or so, her snide comments continue. I want a good relationship with her, but I am not sure where to go from here. Marriage and kids are in our future but not for some time. We are enjoying our own timeline. Help!

IT'S MY LIFE IN COLORADO

DEAR I.M.L.: At 29, you are well into adulthood, so perhaps it's time to draw the line. Tell your mother you know she loves you and is concerned for your welfare, but you do not plan to marry anyone on her timeline. Then say, calmly, that her comments are hurtful, and you need her to quit the needling, or she will be seeing a lot less of you. Be prepared to follow through.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have wrestled with this for a year. I thought I had a good friend. I had a pacemaker implanted, and eight months later I broke my elbow. Both times I was hospitalized. Not once did she come to see me or send a card, even though she is a card lover. I overlooked it until my son's death made me rethink our friendship. She sent me some fruit but didn't make one call to see how we were doing, no visitation, nothing. She didn't send a sympathy card either.

I now regard her as selfish, and I can no longer bring myself to be friends with her. We all make mistakes, that's true, but three times with no support from her is more than I can accept. I now feel we weren't friends at all. Am I wrong? We have many dear friends who were there when we needed them. They cried with us, consoled us, brought food, stayed with us. Are my feelings valid?

ABANDONED IN FLORIDA

DEAR ABANDONED: Where feelings are concerned, there is no "right" or "wrong." Sometimes people feel extremely uncomfortable about what they should say or do when a difficult situation arises such as an illness, an accident or a death. That your friend made herself absent when you needed her support is unfortunate. Not knowing her, I can't guess her reason, and neither can you. So before YOU abandon HER, you should ask her that question.

■■■■

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

ALLO? EEZ THEES DER POOBLIC LAHBRORRY? YAH?
I EM BEEG EEMPORTANT REZEARCHER OOND I REQUIRE EENGLISH VOOLGAR ZYNONYMS FOR DISGUSTINK BODY VUNKTIONS, YAH?
ALLO? ALLO?
NO LUCK?
THOSE LIBRARIANS ARE A SHARP BUNCH.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

ONE SUMMER...
I HAD A JOB AT HAPPY HEIFER BURGERS...
THE UNIFORMS WERE REALLY UNIQUE!
THE UDDERS ARE A BIT MUCH
PHOTOS
JIM DAVIS 6-9

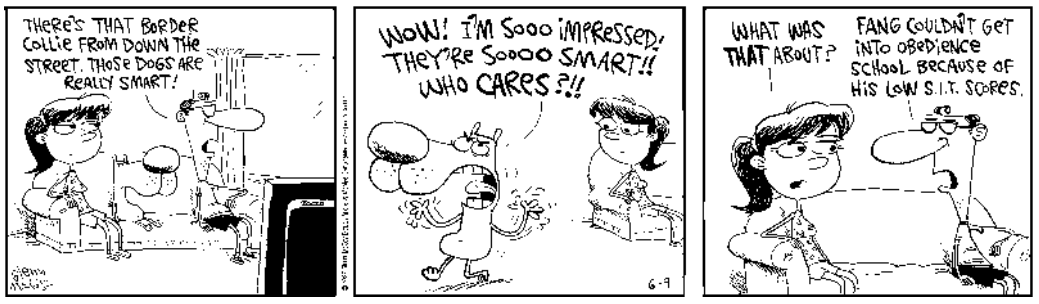
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

YOUR BROTHER IS NOT YOUR WAITER AT THE POOL, OKAY?
WELL, THAT'S NO FUN.
YOU NEED TO SHARE THE POOL AND RESPECT EACH OTHER.
MM-HM. MM-HM.
SO... DON'T BE BOSSY.
MAYBE CLAYTON NEEDS TO BE LESS BOSSABLE!
HARRELL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


THERE'S THAT BORDER COLLIE FROM DOWN THE STREET. THOSE DOGS ARE REALLY SMART!
WOW! I'M SOOO IMPRESSED. THEY'RE SOOOO SMART!! WHO CARES?!!
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
FANG COULDN'T GET INTO OBEDIENCE SCHOOL BECAUSE OF HIS LOW S.I.T. SCORES.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

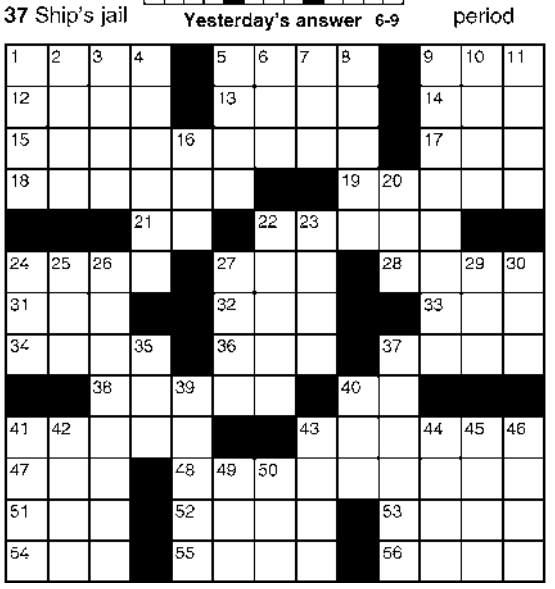
ACROSS
1 Ritzy
5 Envelope part
9 Wrigley product
12 Norwegian seaport
13 Roof overhang
14 Year in Mexico
15 Whetstone, e.g.
17 Hwys.
18 Bothers
19 Praise
21 Chicago transport
22 Minty herb
24 Spring honorees
27 Avril follower
28 From the top
31 Boxing legend
32 The whole enchilada
33 Clean air org.
34 Chest muscles, briefly
36 Unwell
37 Ship's jail
38 Yule greenery
40 Bell or Barker
41 "Lady Bird" director Gerwig
43 Early release
47 Chaney of horror films
48 Honey, for one
51 Soul, to Sartre
52 Tropical tuber
53 Shakespearean king
54 Damage
55 Read quickly
56 Shrill barks

DOWN
1 Sit for a photo
2 Fed. workplace monitor
3 Venetian blind part
4 Carousel figures
5 Shoe fillers
6 PC linking system
7 "Hail!"
8 Briskly self-assured
9 One with a green thumb
10 Nullify
11 Green shade
16 Bud
20 Ms. Thurman
22 Running total
23 Mound
24 Sailor's chart
25 Flamenco cheer
26 Author of "Iberia"
27 Postal delivery
29 Roof ornament
30 Witty one
35 Drunkard
37 Just
39 Endures
40 Wrestling surface
41 Glitz partner
42 Capital of Italia
43 Drudge
44 R.E.M.'s "The — Love"
45 Act of faith?
46 Messes up
49 WWII service member
50 Time line period

Solution time: 24 mins.

L	S	A	T	■	F	A	R	■	A	M	F	M
A	L	G	A	■	O	D	E	■	M	O	R	E
Y	O	U	R	M	O	V	E	■	E	V	A	S
S	E	A	T	E	D	■	L	I	N	E	N	S
■	■	■	S	E	■	■	S	O	D	A	■	■
S	A	M	■	T	E	L	■	N	E	W	E	R
I	D	O	S	■	S	U	B	■	D	A	N	E
C	A	V	E	D	■	G	A	S	■	Y	E	T
■	■	E	R	I	N	■	Y	E	S	■	■	■
U	T	O	P	I	A	■	O	C	E	L	O	T
R	A	V	I	■	D	O	N	T	M	O	V	E
S	P	E	C	■	■	R	E	■	■	K	E	A
A	F	R	O	■	A	G	T	■	S	I	N	K

Yesterday's answer 6-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mae Whitman, 34; Natalie Portman, 41; Johnny Depp, 59; Michael J. Fox, 61.

Happy Birthday: Put your plans in place, go over your to-do list and make this year productive. Stop talking and start doing. Be decisive, show consistency and achieve your goals. Networking, partnering with people who bring out the best in you and making a point to enjoy what you sign up for will lead to a brighter future. Your numbers are 6, 13, 23, 27, 31, 35, 44.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Take a leap forward, trust and believe in yourself, and take care of loose ends. How you react and what you offer to do will determine how much help you get in return. Don't give someone else control over your ability to earn money. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Expect to face opposition if you don't play by the rules or tend to details yourself. Do what's expected before you move on to pleasurable pursuits. Physical changes need more thought before you proceed. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Enjoy what others have to offer, but face reality and what's feasible before entering an endeavor that involves shared expenses. Keep your money and your ideas to yourself. Discipline will help ward off overindulgence. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Get involved in something that helps keep your life in perspective. By discussing a joint venture or shared expenses with someone close, you'll come up with a moneymaking plan that will help you save for something you want. Romance is favored. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Set your sights on something you find interesting. Be open to learning and to participating in events that offer knowledge, financial gain, and physical and emotional stability. Attend a reunion or connect with someone with whom you share an interest. Don't take a health risk. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* You'll learn plenty if you watch and listen. Participate in motivational events, and offer to use your experience and skills to deal with economic situations. Speak up about personal intentions, and romance someone you love. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Interact and learn. Question anything you don't understand, and take things seriously. Promising too much or overspending will lead to financial stress. Aim to save, not to donate, invest or shop. Enroll in a seminar or course. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Alter your course as you proceed. Put your heart and soul into whatever you do, but don't let anyone take advantage of you. Deal with expenses creatively. Doing more of the work yourself will help you come in under budget. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Don't trust others to keep secrets. Keep personal data to yourself. Spend time fixing up your home to suit your personality and emotional and physical needs. Do whatever it takes to get things done on time. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Work alongside anyone who has something to offer. Make learning and using what you find out an adventure, and you will awaken others to see and enjoy something extraordinary. Choose moderation and minimalism over luxury. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't bicker with friends, relatives or peers. You'll gain ground if you keep the peace and are willing to compromise to get things done. Don't depend on others. Choose to do the work yourself if it will help you reach your goal. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Pay attention to meaningful relationships. Let the past remind you how to handle the ones you love. A positive change will transpire if you are open and honest regarding your intentions and feelings. Romance will enhance your life. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are fun-loving, dynamic and friendly. You are big-hearted and entertaining.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8				7				2
	2	4			8		1	
	6			9		4		
	7	9					6	
	4					1	5	
		1		5			7	
	3		9			8	4	
2				8				5

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8	7	4	5	9	3	6	1	2
5	2	1	8	4	6	9	7	3
6	9	3	1	7	2	4	5	8
3	8	5	4	2	1	7	6	9
7	1	6	3	8	9	2	4	5
9	4	2	6	5	7	8	3	1
4	5	7	2	1	8	3	9	6
2	6	9	7	3	5	1	8	4
1	3	8	9	6	4	5	2	7

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

THE GUTENBERG PRESS Solution: 8 letters

C	Y	C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R	S	C	R	E	W
T	A	R	C	O	M	P	O	S	E	E	L	B	I	B
I	E	L	A	U	E	Z	O	L	L	D	L	O	M	O
N	S	C	L	N	N	C	W	A	T	E	R	P	O	O
N	R	L	H	I	O	A	N	T	S	M	T	S	L	K
O	E	A	A	N	G	I	S	E	D	L	T	T	T	S
V	D	M	R	V	O	R	T	M	I	A	O	M	E	T
A	L	I	N	E	S	L	A	C	M	D	E	O	N	R
T	I	B	P	R	M	G	O	P	I	T	U	H	T	A
I	U	R	D	S	N	E	I	G	H	D	Ⓜ	Ⓐ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ
O	G	A	T	I	R	N	H	O	Y	E	O	P	L	B
N	E	S	T	O	G	L	D	P	E	C	R	R	I	O
L	U	S	B	N	O	I	T	N	E	V	N	I	P	U
F	A	A	T	S	E	N	N	A	H	O	J	N	U	R
C	L	D	E	B	I	R	C	S	N	A	R	T	P	G

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Audience, Bible, Books, Brass, Calendars, Calligrapher, Casting, Coat, Compose, Design, Dictionary, Ephemera, Fust, Guilders, Innovation, Invention, Johannes, Labor, Lead, Letter, Lines, Mainz, Mass, Metal, Method, Mold, Molten, Print, Pupils, Screw, Stamping, Strasbourg, Technology, Tools, Transcribed, Vellum, Versions, Water, Wood

Yesterday's Answer: Brokerage

The NEW **Treasury 48** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

Acuña homers twice, Heredia goes deep as Braves top A's

ATLANTA (AP)— Ronald Acuña Jr. hit two home runs, Guillermo Heredia gave Atlanta the lead with a solo shot in the seventh inning and the streaking Braves beat the reeling Oakland Athletics 3-2 on Tuesday night.

Kyle Wright (6-3) recovered from a rocky start to allow two runs in eight innings — the longest outing of his career. The Braves extended their season-best winning streak to six games.

Heredia pulled a pitch from Lou Trivino (1-4) over the left-field wall and into the Oakland bullpen to snap a 2-all tie.

Acuña homered in the first and third off Cole Irvin.

The A's, making their first visit to Truist Park, lost their seventh straight.

Red Sox 6, Angels 5, 10 innings

In Anaheim, Calif., the Los Angeles Angels matched a franchise record with their 13th straight defeat hours after firing manager Joe Maddon, falling to the streaking Boston Red Sox on Christian Vázquez's go-ahead single in the 10th inning.

Interim boss Phil Nevin lost his managerial debut and Angels star Mike Trout exited with left groin tightness as Los Angeles tied the club mark for its longest skid set from 1988-89. The Angels dropped the final 12 games on the 1988 schedule and their season opener in 1989.

Boston got 15 hits and won its sixth straight game. Bobby Dalbec had two RBIs.

Trout homered in the first inning and gingerly ran out a double in the third before leaving the game.

Tanner Houck (4-3) got the win and Matt Strahm retired the side in the 10th for his second save.

Jaime Barria (1-1) took the loss. Los Angeles blew a lead in the seventh inning or later for the sixth time during its slide.

Phillies 3, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Alec Bohm and Matt Vierling homered off Josh Hader in the ninth inning and Philadelphia rallied past Milwaukee for its fifth straight win.

Milwaukee led 2-1 in the ninth and handed the game to its All-Star closer, who hadn't blown a save — or surrendered a run — in 19 previous appearances this year. Bohm belted a leadoff homer off Hader (0-1), whose streak of 40 straight scoreless appearances dating to last season was snapped.

Two batters later, pinch-hitter Vierling, in his first major league at-bat since May 10, took Hader deep again to put the Phillies in front.

Connor Brogdon (1-0) pitched a scoreless eighth, and Corey Knebel closed it out with his 10th save in 13 tries. The Phillies are 4-0 since they fired manager Joe Girardi on Friday.

Padres 7, Mets 0

In San Diego, Yu Darvish held New York hitless until the sixth inning and Jurickson Profar launched a leadoff home run for San Diego in a matchup between two of the NL's best teams.

Darvish (5-3) allowed only two hits in seven innings while striking out six and walking none on 100 pitches. He hit three of the Mets' first five batters with pitches, including Brandon Nimmo to open the game.

The Mets lost Pete Alonso when the slugger was plunked on his right hand leading off the second. The team said initial X-rays were negative and further tests were planned.

Yankees 10, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Anthony Rizzo hit a three-run homer in the seventh inning to crack open a close game as New York beat Minnesota for its seventh straight win.

Aaron Judge and Giancarlo Stanton got the visitors going with first-inning homers, the 23rd time they've gone deep in the same game in five seasons together.

The Yankees (40-15) lead the major leagues with the best 55-game record in baseball since Seattle in 2001.

Lucas Luetge (2-2) pitched 1 2/3 scoreless innings in relief of ineffective starter Jameson Taillon.

White Sox 4, Dodgers 0

In Chicago, Michael Kopech pitched six innings of one-hit ball, pinch-hitter AJ Pollock delivered a two-run double against his former team and Chicago beat Los Angeles.

Pollock's clutch swing off the bench sparked a four-run sixth that sent the White Sox to their third consecutive victory.

The NL West-leading Dodgers dropped their third straight.

Kopech (2-2) struck out eight and walked one, lowering his ERA to 1.94.

Pollock was summoned to bat for Gavin Sheets after the Dodgers lifted reliever Phil Bickford (0-1) in favor of left-hander David Price with two outs in the sixth. Pollock was 4 for 31 (.129) in his last nine games before snapping the scoreless tie.

AP

Atlanta Braves right fielder Ronald Acuna Jr. (13), left fielder Guillermo Heredia (38) and a teammate celebrate the team's win over the Oakland Athletics in a baseball game Tuesday, June 7, 2022, in Atlanta.

Astros 4, Mariners 1

In Houston, Justin Verlander struck out a season-high 12 in seven sparkling innings, Yordan Alvarez hit a two-run homer and Houston beat Seattle.

There was no trouble between the teams one night after beanballs led to a bench-clearing scuffle. Houston bench coach Joe Espada filled in for manager Dusty Baker, who served a one-game suspension after he and reliever Héctor Neris were ejected from Monday's game.

Verlander (7-2) yielded one run on six hits. Ryan Pressly pitched the ninth for his 11th save.

Rays 4, Cardinals 2, 10 innings

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Taylor Walls hit a three-run homer with two outs in the 10th inning and Tampa Bay beat St. Louis.

Walls sent a 2-2 pitch from Drew VerHagen (3-1) into the right field seats.

St. Louis loaded the bases with no outs in the 10th against Colin Poche (2-0) but scored just once for a 2-1 lead on Lars Nootbaar's sacrifice fly.

Both starting pitchers had strong outings.

St. Louis' Dakota Hudson gave up one run, two hits and one walk while striking out six over seven innings, while Tampa Bay's Jeffrey Springs allowed six hits in six scoreless innings.

Rockies 5, Giants 3

In San Francisco, Connor Joe homered leading off the game, pinch-hitter Charlie Blackmon connected for a three-run shot and Colorado beat San Francisco to stop a four-game skid.

Germán Márquez (2-5) shook off a shaky start and struck out seven in six innings for his first road win this season. Daniel Bard earned his 12th save.

Wilmer Flores hit a two-run homer for the Giants. Carlos Rodón threw 98 pitches in four innings, and Zack Littell (1-2) took the loss.

Umpires initially ruled Joe's hit a double before replay overturned the call. Joe extended his on-base streak to 33 games.

Marlins 12, Nationals 2

In Miami, Jazz Chisholm Jr. homered twice, including a grand slam, and had a career-high six RBIs as Miami beat Washington.

Nick Fortes and Jorge Soler also went deep while Avisaíl García had three hits for the Marlins.

Rookie right-hander Edward Cabrera allowed one run in six innings. In his second start since being promoted from Triple-A last week, Cabrera (2-0) limited Washington to two hits, walked two, struck out four and hit a batter.

Chisholm snapped a 2-for-29 skid with his second-inning grand slam. He drove a 3-0 pitch off Joan Adon (1-10) over the wall in center to make it 5-0.

Orioles 9, Cubs 3

In Baltimore, Cedric Mullins and Trey Mancini hit successive homers, sparking a power surge that carried Baltimore past Chicago.

Jorge Mateo, Austin Hays and Ramón Urías also connected for the Orioles, who beat the Cubs for the first time in seven tries since 2008.

Reliever Bryan Baker (2-3) allowed one run in 1 1/3 innings for the win.

Christopher Morel homered on the game's first pitch off rookie Kyle Bradish and has reached base safely in 21 consecutive games to begin his career, extending his Cubs record. Morel also had an RBI triple in the sixth.

The Orioles answered in the bottom half when Mullins led off with a homer and Mancini connected on the next pitch from Keegan Thompson (6-1).

Blue Jays 7, Royals 0

In Kansas City, Mo., Alek Manoah scattered six hits in six scoreless innings and Toronto beat Kansas City.

Alejandro Kirk had four hits and scored a run for Toronto, and Bo Bichette reached base five times — including three walks. The Blue Jays have won consecutive games by shutout for the first time since last July.

Manoah (7-1) worked around a bases-loaded jam in the sixth.

Brad Keller (1-7) allowed three runs and seven hits in six-plus innings for Kansas City, which was shut out in consecutive games for the first time since May 2021.

Guardians 6, Rangers 3, game 1

In Cleveland, Cal Quantrill stayed unbeaten at home, Owen Miller drove in two runs and the Cleveland beat Texas in the first game of a doubleheader.

Quantrill (3-3) delivered his fourth straight quality start, allowing three runs in seven innings.

Miller hit a two-run single in the third off Jon Gray (1-3).

Rangers rookie outfielder Steele Walker homered for his first hit in the majors, and Marcus Semien connected for Texas.

Emmanuel Clase pitched a 1-2-3 ninth for his 10th save.

Rangers 6, Guardians 3, game 2

In Cleveland, Marcus Semien homered twice and tied a Texas franchise record for hits in a doubleheader as the Rangers hit four homers and split a doubleheader with Cleveland.

Semien homered three times in the two games and finished 7-for-8, raising his average from .196 to .221. His seven hits matched the team mark for a twinbill shared by Marlon Byrd (2009) and Fred Valentine (1968).

The Rangers teed off against Guardians rookie Kirk McCarty (0-1), making his first major league start. Semien homered in the second, and Jonah Heim added a solo shot ahead of Nathaniel Lowe's two-run homer in the fourth that put the Rangers up 5-0.

Taylor Hearn (4-4) didn't allow a run until the sixth, when the Guardians scored three times off the Texas lefty.

Diamondbacks 14, Reds 8

In Cincinnati, Graham Ashcraft pitched six shutout innings to extend his impressive debut run, Joey Votto led an early homer barrage and Cincinnati beat slumping Arizona.

Votto hit a three-run homer in the first inning, and Brandon Drury and Matt Reynolds added two-run drives within the first three innings for a 9-0 lead. The advantage stayed there until the game was delayed 63 minutes by rain after seven innings.

Tommy Pham contributed a solo homer and Tyler Stephenson a two-run blast in a five-run eighth for the Reds.

Ashcraft (3-0) lowered his ERA to 1.14 over his first four major league starts while allowing three hits with four strikeouts.

The Reds rocked left-hander Tyler Gilbert (0-3) with five hits and seven runs, six earned, in 1 2/3 innings.

Pirates 5, Tigers 3

In Pittsburgh, Tarik Skubal pitched seven steady innings to win his fourth straight decision and Harold Castro hit a two-run single to lead Detroit to a rain-delayed win over Pittsburgh.

After the start was pushed back more than two hours, Skubal (5-2) gave up three runs and six hits while striking out nine and walking one.

Gregory Soto pitched a perfect ninth for his 11th save in 12 opportunities.

Pittsburgh lefty Jose Quintana (1-3) was rocked for four runs and seven hits in 3 1/3 innings.

Road Warriors draw on experience as Finals move to Boston

BOSTON (AP)—Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors have no problem playing on the road. The Celtics, meanwhile, haven't been lights-out in Boston during these playoffs.

As the NBA Finals shift to TD Garden for Wednesday's Game 3 with the series tied at 1, the Celtics ought to have the advantage, but recent numbers suggest otherwise. Boston is 5-4 at home and 8-3 on the road this postseason.

The Warriors, meanwhile, have won at least one away game in 26 consecutive playoff series.

"We always know how to find a way to win games no matter what style it is, high scoring, low scoring, defensive battle, shootout, whatever it is," Golden State guard Stephen Curry said. "We find another level of grit and determination, just an ability to find a way to get it done. Being in hostile environments, you get tested, you get pushed. Our experience kind of shows at the right time."

The previous 39 times teams have split the first two games of the Finals, the winner of Game 3 has gone on to win the series 82.1% of the time (32-7).

AP

Golden State Warriors guard Klay Thompson (11) celebrates with forward Draymond Green (23) during the second half of Game 1 of basketball's NBA Finals against the Boston Celtics in San Francisco, Sunday, June 5, 2022.

"I think just our playoff experience, our guys understand the importance of making sure you don't let your guard down in that first (road) playoff game," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "We know they're going to bring a level of physicality that we brought last game. We got to be prepared for that."

The Warriors rediscovered their defensive toughness in their Game 2 win, limiting Boston to a playoff-low 88 points. They also forced the Celtics into 19 turnovers. Boston is 1-5 in these playoffs when it's had 16 turnovers or more; with 15 or fewer giveaways, the Celtics are 12-2.

"Unforced at times, but also over-penetrating. Have to have carryover and consistency in that area," Celtics coach Ime Udoka said. "That kind of tells a story."

Boston guard Marcus Smart said the Celtics need to match the intensity of Golden State's Draymond Green, who got into a pair of skirmishes — first with Grant Williams and then with Jaylen Brown — that seemed to fuel his team.

"You respond to fire with fire, right?" Smart said. "We've just got to turn around and do the same thing. If he's going to come in here and try to be physical, this is our house and we've got to protect it."

NO WORRIES

Klay Thompson doesn't want anybody to worry about him.

The Warriors sharpshooter has struggled thus far this series, going 10 of 33 from the field and 4 of 15 from 3-point range.

But he trusts that his routine and history will shake him from his latest slump. That, and watching some of his old highlights.

"That's the beauty of playing in today's age. You can go on YouTube and look up all your great moments," he said.

His searches of choice?

"Probably just YouTube 'Game 6 Klay' because there were some very high-pressurized situations I was in," Thompson said. "I ended up shooting the ball well. When you can do it when your back is against the wall, you can do it at any given moment. It's just about keeping that mental strong."

INJURY UPDATES

Kerr said Andre Iguodala, who sat out Game 2 with inflammation in his right knee, is questionable for Game 3. Iguodala played 12 minutes in Game 1, his first time on the floor since the Warriors' opening-round series against Denver.

For Boston, Robert Williams III is on track to play after Smart inadvertently fell into his surgically repaired left knee in the third quarter of Game 2. Williams has had to adjust his approach while playing just 10 weeks after surgery.

"Just adding a little more technique, a little more thinking to the game," he said. "Obviously ... with the injury that I have, not being as explosive as I normally am. A little more physicality, using my body a little bit more."

Stephen Curry's teammates admire his humility as a superstar

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Jordan Poole knocked down a buzzer-beater from almost midcourt when Stephen Curry made a point to catch his gaze, and that celebratory stare down told so much about the veteran guard's pride for his young teammate.

Curry expressed as much joy for Poole hitting the jaw-dropping shot from deep as he would had it been him, the superstar who already has more than his share of 3-pointers from way, way back. That's Selfless Steph — never one to let his ego get in the way of Golden State's success.

Curry still did plenty while scoring 29 points to lead the Warriors to a 107-88 Game 2 NBA Finals victory against the Celtics on Sunday night, evening the best-of-seven series at one game apiece as it shifts to Boston for Wednesday's Game 3.

He applauded Poole for maintaining momentum going into the final period.

"That was obviously a big shot to get the crowd into it," Curry said. "Put kind of a dagger on that great third quarter that we had."

The 34-year-old Curry embraces living in a constant state of reflection — not to mention balance as a father of three young children — while also somehow keeping his mind acutely focused on the moment right in front of him.

Thinking back on how far he has come, from being selected as Golden State's undersized first-round draft pick out of Davidson College in 2009 to all the losing early on in his career and a remarkable rise into one of the NBA's greatest ever, Curry regularly acknowledges his gratitude.

"I've said it many times, Steph reminds me so much of Tim Duncan," coach Steve Kerr said. "When I played with Timmy, there was the same vibe, this incredible, authentic humility and humor and joy behind the scenes. Then, frankly, a real arrogance on the floor, like 'I'm the best player out here.' It's the perfect kind of leader, someone who you feel comfortable with in the locker room but somebody who you can count on to take you where you need to go on the floor.

"That's what Steph possesses. It's a very rare combination of qualities. But it's what makes him special."

Curry exhibits that humility in how he goes about his daily business without worrying how many points he scores from night to night, assists he dishes out or arm flexes he gets to perform in the faces of adoring fans who chant "M-V-P!" at every chance.

AP

Golden State Warriors guard Jordan Poole, left, celebrates with guard Stephen Curry, middle, and forward Andrew Wiggins (22) after scoring against the Boston Celtics during the second half of Game 2 of basketball's NBA Finals in San Francisco, Sunday, June 5, 2022.

He is relishing the process of helping the inexperienced Warriors players find their path — for this postseason and well beyond.

Earlier this year, the newly crowned all-time 3-point leader took great delight in the spotlight shining on teammate Andrew Wiggins as he earned his first career All-Star Game selection and was named a Western Conference starter.

That unselfish nature goes back years. When Kevin Durant arrived with huge fanfare in 2016, Curry quietly took a back seat and allowed Durant to find his place with a new team. It was an important gesture that ultimately ended with two championships together and consecutive finals MVP honors for KD.

"It all starts with Steph. When KD was here, our offense still started with Steph," Draymond Green said. "That's the way it's going to be."

Back on the finals stage for a sixth time in eight years, it's Curry's time to carry the Warriors again. But he will be thrilled to see Poole hit another 39-footer, for Kevon Looney to crash the boards to create second chances on the offensive glass, or for Wiggins to take on one of the toughest defensive assignments like guarding Jayson Tatum.

"I remember where I started and just the whole journey. You remind yourself of that every day. The fact that from high school to your first All-Star Game, it's a journey, and everything that had to go right in your life and on the court for that to happen," Curry said. "Never let myself get too big-headed on that front. That's how I live my life. So everything about it in terms of the appreciation and gratitude for everything that happens, all the experiences that you have, everything that you go through, you keep building on that, and usually good things happen because you appreciate everything no matter what happens."

And if Curry and Co. can win it all once more, he will join a star-studded list of players with two or more MVPs and four titles: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Michael Jordan, Bill Russell, LeBron James, Magic Johnson and Duncan.

Walmart heir Rob Walton agrees to buy Broncos in record deal

By ARNIE STAPLETON
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—The Waltons, heirs to the Walmart fortune and America's richest family, have won the bidding to purchase the Denver Broncos in the most expensive deal for a sports franchise anywhere in the world.

The Broncos announced late Tuesday night they had entered into a sale agreement with the Walton-Penner ownership group led by Rob Walton, his daughter, Carrie Walton Penner, and her husband, Greg Penner.

Terms of the sale weren't disclosed, but KUSA-TV in Denver reported it was for $4.65 billion.

The price tag far surpasses the $3.1 billion sale last month of Chelsea, one of European soccer's blue ribbon teams, to an American-led consortium fronted by Los Angeles Dodgers part-owner Todd Boehly.

Boehly reportedly was among the investors with one of the five finalists who were invited to make bids for the Broncos by Monday's deadline.

The agreement for the Walmart-Penner group to buy the franchise from the Pat Bowlen Trust must be approved by the NFL, but that is considered a formality.

"While this purchase and sale agreement is pending approval from the NFL's finance committee and league ownership, today marks a significant step on the path to an exciting new chapter in Broncos history," team president and CEO Joe Ellis said in a statement.

"I have enjoyed getting to know Rob Walton, Carrie Walton Penner and Greg Penner throughout this process," Ellis said. "Learning more about their background and vision for the Denver Broncos, I am confident that their leadership and support will help this team achieve great things on and off the field."

Rob Walton said in a statement, "We are thrilled to be selected to move forward with the purchase of the Denver Broncos! Carrie, Greg and I are inspired by the opportunity to steward this great organization in a vibrant community full of opportunity and passionate fans.

"Having lived and worked in Colorado, we've always admired the Broncos. Our enthusiasm has only grown as we've learned more about the team, staff and Broncos Country over the last few months," Walton added.

Walton said Mellody Hobson, co-CEO of Ariel Investments and chairwoman of Starbucks, has agreed to join the ownership group.

Hobson is Black. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has made minority ownership a point of emphasis in the league.

"Mellody currently serves as Chair of the Board of Starbucks Corporation and is also a director of JPMorgan Chase. We know she will bring her strategic acumen and leadership perspective to our team," Walton said.

AP

Walmart Chairman Rob Walton speaks at the company shareholders meeting in Fayetteville, Ark., June 5, 2015.

TANIA

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who've constantly supported me through violin, tennis, soccer, and now running. But also those back in New York, my coach Brian Horowitz and all my Fordham teammates."

On Hall being disqualified, Tan said she "was surprised, that's about it."

CNMI national athletics coach Ron Snyder applauded Tan's gold medal win in the 10K run especially considering she acted the role of chief cheerleader to her teammates just hours before she laced them up.

"Tania spent the whole day at the track cheering on her teammates and other athletes from the Pacific Islands and then did an impressive 10K with a time of 41:15.60… They ran through sunset and into dark… [It was a] rough race. Two girls scratched then a regional Australia athlete ran with illegal shoes and was disqualified… The shoes had a 40mm stack height. That is legal for the road but track shoes are limited to 25mm."

Snyder, who coached Tan at SIS where he's the headmaster and track and field coach, expects other members of Team CNMI to contribute to their overall success moving forward.

"She brought home 10 points for the team. We will have some more points coming our way in some upcoming races."

Aside from acknowledging Tan's gold medal run, Snyder also gave kudos to the Day 1 performances of Zarinae Sapong and Liamwar Rangamar.

"We had a great first day. Zari qualified as an alternate for the 100m and Lia competed well and against a field that included an Olympic bronze medalist…Lia showed good progression through her javelin throws, each one increasing the distance on the others," he said.

Aside from Tan, Sapong, and Rangamar, the CNMI's six-person contingent to the 2022 Oceania Athletics Championships is made up of Tiana Cabrera, Mike Mancao, and Orrin Pharmin.

Mancao saw action yesterday in the 3,000m steeplechase and the 800m, while Sapong competed in the 800m for women's. Results will be reported in tomorrow's issue of *Saipan Tribune.* Today, Tan will look to another podium finish in the 5K run, while Cabrera will make her debut in the U18 3,000m. Pharmin will also see action in the 60m run in the masters division this morning.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Tania Tan poses with CNMI National Athletics Team coach Dr. Ron Snyder, left, and Oceania Athletics Association president Robin Sapong of the CNMI after winning the 10K run of the 2022 Oceania Athletics Championships last Tuesday in Mackay, Australia.

CNMI

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were still in the thick of it in the second and inched closer to Guam, 33-28, following a short stab from E'Anna Won.

Guam, however, went on a 13-3 run after that with Mia San Nicolas scoring 6 points of the total to enter halftime with a 46-31 spread.

The CNMI tried to keep up with the Micro Cup top seeds in the third quarter, but managed only 10 points as opposed to Guam's 21 markers and trailed by a whopping 21 points, 41-67, entering the fourth and final quarter.

The wheels then totally fell off in the payoff period as the CNMI scored only 5 measly points in the final 10 minutes of the contest to drop its first game of the four-day tourney.

San Nicolas paced Guam with 18 points, while Elysia Perez added 13. Derin Stinnet and Kara Duenas also fired twin digits with 12 and 10 markers, respectively, for the winning team.

The CNMI women's leading scorers were sisters E'Anna and Ky'Sonna Won who combined for 25 points in a losing cause.

Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation president James Lee took the women's loss in stride, considering the CNMI just went up against the top team in Micronesia.

"I personally feel that our ladies did good against Guam. They held their ground in the first half of the game. We knew going in and challenging Team Guam in the first game was going to be an uphill battle, mainly because they have much more exposure to the game in comparison to our team and in turn more experience. However, I am happy at what I saw and excited to see how they will bounce back and incorporate what they have learned from this loss to the next game against the Federated States of Micronesia and Palau," he said.

In the other women's game yesterday, Palau whipped FSM, 87-17. Results of the opening two men's games will be reported in tomorrow's issue of *Saipan Tribune.*

Guam 94 – San Nicolas 18, Perez 13, Stinnett 12, Duenas 10, Borja 9, Taitano 9, Miranda 6, Han 6, Dacanay 4, Hernandez 4, Paulino 3.

CNMI 46 – E. Won 15, K. Won 10, Alegre 6, Bucalig 6, Roligat 5, Fatialofa 2, Pangelinan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 28-17, 46-31, 67-41, 94-46.

TURNKEY

From Page 20

success of the Games. The MGOC would like to recognize TurnKey Solutions. Under the leadership of Broc Calvo, Billy Grow, and Jerry Lin, TurnKey Solutions has donated software application services valued at $40,000. We are grateful for TurnKey's generous donation. It's a testament to our business community's support of the Games," said MGOC chair Marco Peter.

MGOC CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta said TurnKey Solutions' contribution to the Pacific Mini Games will be to provide the scoring and information for the events. "Turnky's donation is an invaluable asset to the Games. We are grateful for their assistance," he said.

Peter and Babauta said the MGOC has been very fortunate to have private community partners and leaders invest not only their time and resources, but also commit staff to ensure the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 is a success.

"We want to thank Turnky Solutions for their support of the NMPMG2022 and generous contribution. With exactly a week to go, the community is coming together. It is with great pride to see the hard work, donations, and support flood in. The NMI is ready. Our people are ready for the Pacific Mini Games to begin."

A total of 1,034 athletes from 20 countries will compete in the 11th staging of the Mini Games. The CNMI and Fiji will have the most participants with 125 athletes apiece. The Solomon Islands has the second most athletes for the Mini Games with 117, followed by New Caledonia (109), Guam (101), Papua New Guinea (91), Tahiti (90), Palau (47), Wallis & Futuna (42), Nauru (38), Samoa (31), Vanuatu (28), Kiribati (23), Australia (19), Tuvalu (15), Tonga (12), Cook Islands (10), Federated States of Micronesia (7), American Samoa (3), and Norfolk Island (3).

The sport with the most athletes entered is athletics with 329, followed by outrigger canoe or *va'a* (182), weightlifting (131), tennis (98), baseball (96), badminton (64), golf (61), beach volleyball (38), and triathlon (35).

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	40	15	.727	_
Toronto	33	22	.600	7
Tampa Bay	32	23	.582	8
Boston	29	27	.518	11½
Baltimore	24	33	.421	17

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	32	25	.561	_
Chicago	26	27	.491	4
Cleveland	25	26	.490	4
Detroit	22	33	.400	9
Kansas City	17	37	.315	13½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	36	20	.643	_
Los Angeles	27	30	.474	9½
Texas	26	29	.473	9½
Seattle	25	31	.446	11
Oakland	20	37	.351	16½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	38	20	.655	_
Atlanta	29	27	.518	8
Philadelphia	26	29	.473	10½
Miami	23	30	.434	12½
Washington	21	36	.368	16½

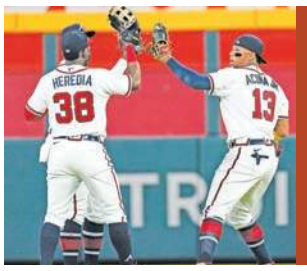
Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	33	24	.579	_
St. Louis	32	24	.571	½
Pittsburgh	24	29	.453	7
Chicago	23	33	.411	9½
Cincinnati	20	35	.364	12

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	35	20	.636	_
San Diego	34	22	.607	1½
San Francisco	29	25	.537	5½
Arizona	26	31	.456	10
Colorado	24	31	.436	11

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Acuña homers twice, Heredia goes deep as Braves top A's

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Sports

Walmart heir Rob Walton agrees to buy Broncos in record deal

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Tania bags gold in 10K run

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Tania Tan gave the CNMI its first medal in the 2022 Oceania Athletics Championships after topping the 10-kilometer run last Tuesday in Mackay, Australia.

The 20-year-old junior at Fordham University won the gold medal in the women's 10,000m race after crossing the finish line in 41:15.60. Her lone competitor in the event, Audney Hall of regional Australia, was disqualified.

The Saipan International School alumnae was nonchalant even after winning the gold medal.

"It was actually rainy and windy the whole day today. Super muggy out…I felt pretty good, didn't feel too tired which is good because I have another race (5K) on Thursday and I really want to do well in that one more," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

Asked to whom she's dedicating her gold medal, Tan said it's to everyone back home in the CNMI.

"Especially my parents

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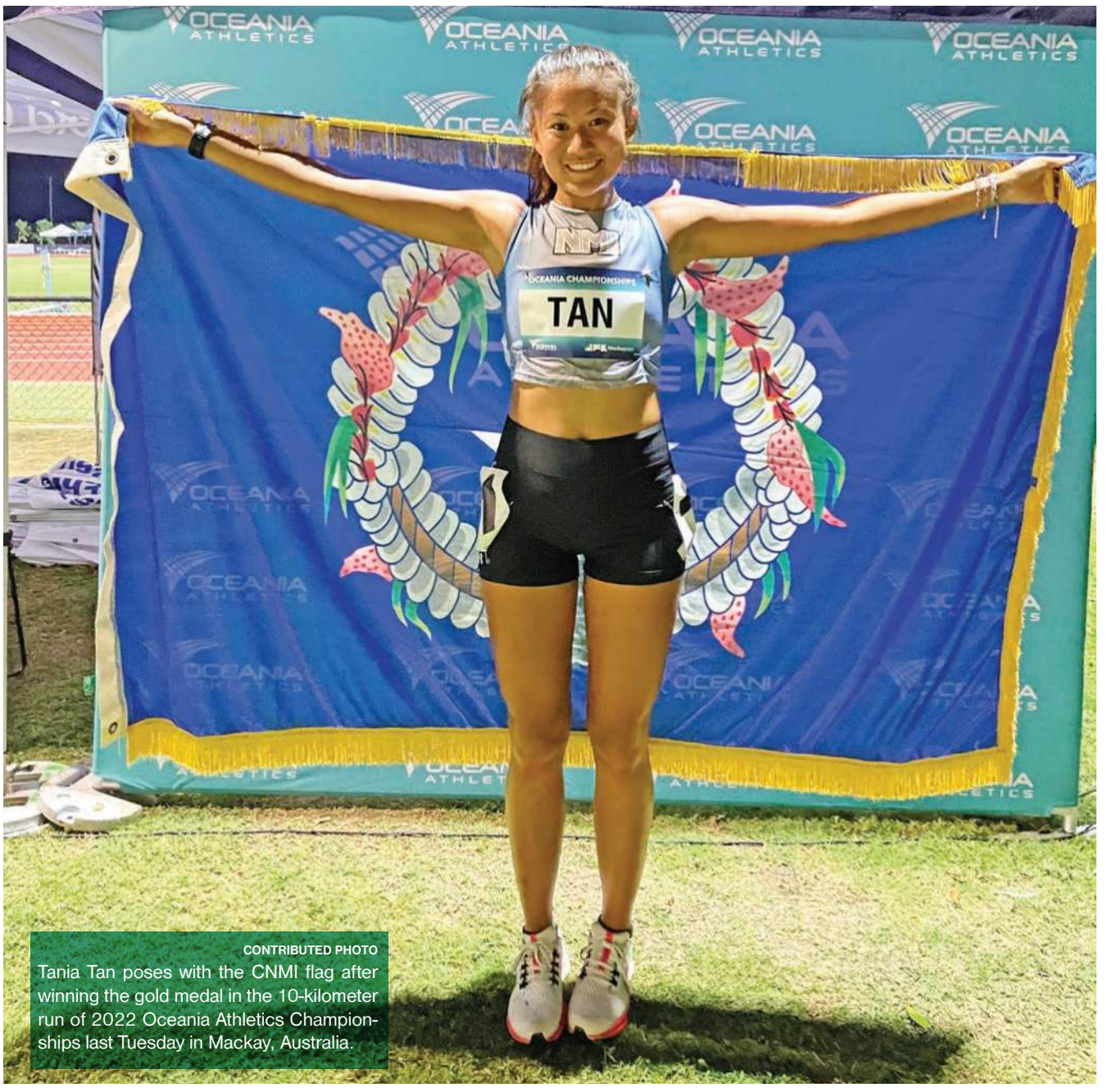

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tania Tan poses with the CNMI flag after winning the gold medal in the 10-kilometer run of 2022 Oceania Athletics Championships last Tuesday in Mackay, Australia.

TurnKey Solutions donates $40K in-kind to Mini Games

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

TurnKey Solutions has joined the growing number of businesses supporting the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 after it donated software application services valued at $40,000 plus additional services to the quadrennial event.

"TurnKey Solutions is proud and excited to partner with the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games Organizing Committee to support our athletes. As a small local business, TurnKey Solutions is committed to offering world class solutions to our people and visitors throughout the Games. We wish all the athletes best of luck, but most especially Team NMI!" said managing partner Jerry Lin.

The MGOC thanked TurnKey Solutions for their generous sponsorship of the Mini Games, which the CNMI will be hosting for the first time ever starting next week from June 17 to 25.

"As we near the start of the Mimi Games, businesses are stepping in to ensure the

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
TurnKey Solutions' Broc Calvo, Billy Grow, and Jerry Lin are all smiles after presenting a giant facsimile check representing their $40,000 in-kind contribution to the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022. Also in photo are Mini Games Organizing Committee chair Marco Peter, CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta, and other MGOC staff.

CNMI cage belles fall to Guam in Micro Cup

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The CNMI Women's National Basketball Team got a rude welcome from Guam after the host team beat their northern neighbors, 94-46, as the 2022 FIBA Micronesian Cup got going yesterday the UOG Calvo Fieldhouse.

The CNMI cage belles made a game of it in the early goings though and even tied it at 13-all with a 2-pointer from Angel Roligat at the 4:27 mark of the opening quarter. Coach Catherine Attao-Toves' wards

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI and Guam cage belles are seen here in action in Day 1 of the 2022 FIBA Micronesian Cup yesterday at the UOG Calvo Fieldhouse.